



Rabbi says gun 'miraculously jammed' in California attack

By AMY TAXIN and CHRISTOPHER WEBER

POWAY, Calif. (AP) — In the minutes after the gunman fled the scene of a shooting that killed a woman inside a Southern California synagogue, a wounded Rabbi Yisroel Goldstein wrapped his bloodied hand in a prayer shawl, stood on a chair and addressed the panicked congregation, vowing to stay strong in the face of the deadly attack targeting his community.

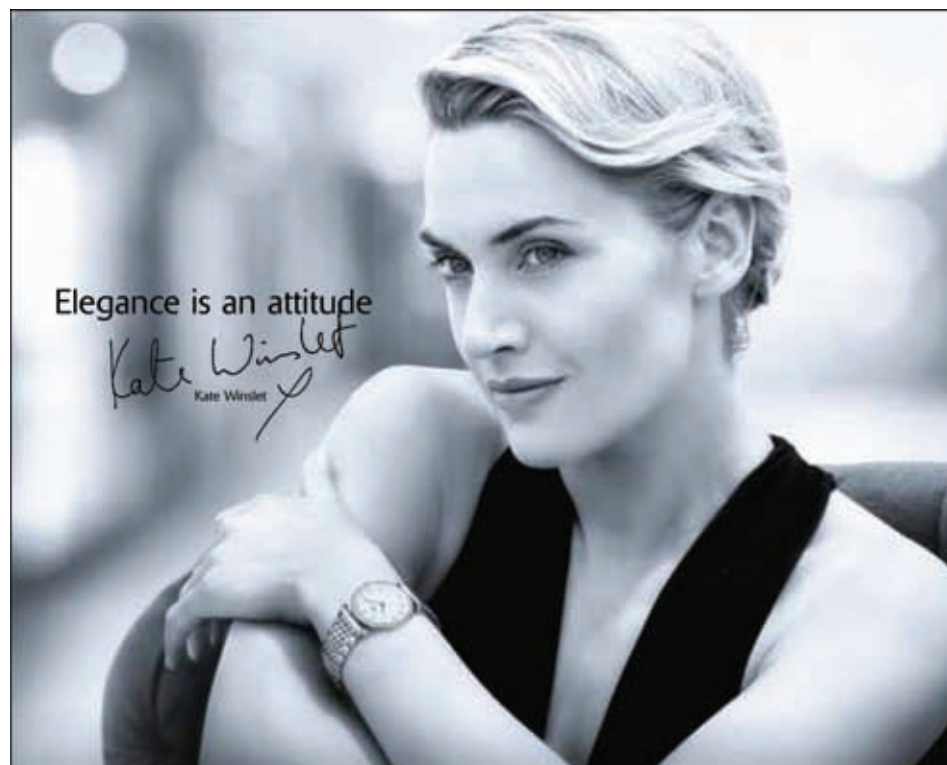
"We are a Jewish nation that will stand tall. We will not let anyone take us down. Terrorism like this will not take us down," Goldstein recalled telling his congregants after the gunfire erupted Saturday at Chabad of Poway. Congregant Lori Kaye, 60, was killed in the shooting, which injured Goldstein, 8-year-old Noya Dahan and her 34-year-old uncle, Almog Peretz, authorities said.

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Rabbi Yisroel Goldstein speaks at a news conference at the Chabad of Poway synagogue, Sunday, April 28, 2019, in Poway, Calif.

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Oliver North out as NRA president after leadership dispute

By LISA MARIE PANE

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Oliver North announced Saturday that he would not serve a second term as National Rifle Association president, making it clear he had been forced out by the gun lobby's leadership after his own failed attempt to remove the NRA's long-time CEO in a burgeoning divide over the group's finances and media operations.

"Please know I hoped to be with you today as NRA president endorsed for reelection. I'm now informed



In this Friday, April 26, 2019 photo, National Rifle Association President Col. Oliver North speaks at the National Rifle Association Institute for Legislative Action Leadership Forum in Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis.

Associated Press

that will not happen," North said in a statement that was read by Richard Childress, the NRA's first vice president, to members at the group's annual convention.

North, whose one-year term ends Monday, did not show up for the meeting, and his spot on the stage was left empty, his nameplate still in its place. His statement was largely met with silence. Wayne LaPierre, whom North had tried to push out, later received two standing ovations.

It was a stunning conclusion to a battle between two conservative and Second Amendment titans — North, the retired Marine lieutenant colonel with a ramrod demeanor who was at the center of the Iran-Contra scandal of the 1980s, and LaPierre, who has been battle-tested in the decades since he took up the mantle of gun rights. He has fought back challenges that have arisen over the decades, seemingly emerging unscathed each time. In this latest effort, he pushed back against North, telling members of the NRA's board of directors that North had threatened to release "damaging" information about him to them and saying it amounted to an "extortion" attempt.

Hundreds of the NRA's estimated 5 million members packed into the convention center in Indianapolis where the group's annual meetings were being held. Near the end of the two-hour meeting, some members challenged efforts to

adjourn and pushed to question the board about controversies involving its financial management, the relationship with its long-time public relations firm and details of what North sought to raise about alleged misspending, sexual harassment and other mismanagement.

But those cries were drowned out as some board members urged such conversations not to be held at such a large public forum, even if the media were eventually discharged from the room.

"We don't want to give the other side any more information than they already have," said Tom King, a board member from New York for more than a decade.

Offered Marion Hammer, a former NRA president and longtime lobbyist from Florida: "The life's blood of this organization is on the line. We are under fire from without. We do not need to be under attack from within."

The internal dispute first spilled out in public after the NRA in recent weeks filed a lawsuit against Ackerman McQueen, the Oklahoma-based public relations firm that has earned tens of millions of dollars in the decades since it began shaping the gun lobby's fierce talking points. The NRA's lawsuit accuses Ackerman McQueen of refusing to hand over financial records to account for its billings. North has a \$1 million contract with Ackerman McQueen, raising alarm bells among some in the NRA about conflicts of interest.

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Continued from Front

Hours after the three wounded were released from hospitals, Goldstein described the onslaught at a news conference Sunday outside the synagogue north of San Diego.

Goldstein said he was preparing for a service on the last day of Passover, a holiday celebrating freedom, and heard a loud sound. He turned around, and a saw a young man wearing sunglasses standing in front of him with a rifle.

"I couldn't see his eyes. I couldn't see his soul," Goldstein said. He raised his hands and lost one of his fingers in the shooting.

And then, Goldstein said, "miraculously the gun jammed."

The attack Saturday came exactly six months after a mass shooting in a Pittsburgh synagogue.

John T. Earnest, 19, surrendered to police after bursting into the synagogue and opening fire as about 100 people were worshipping inside.

Earnest, who had no previous contact with law enforcement, may face a hate crime charge in addition to homicide charges when he's arraigned later this week, San Diego County Sheriff William Gore said. He was being held without bail, and it was unclear if he had an attorney. Police searched Earnest's house and said he was also being investigated in connection with an arson attack on a mosque in nearby Escondido, California, on March 24.

The 8-year-old victim said she had just finished praying and was getting ready to go play with other chil-

dren when gunshots rang out. Her uncle rushed her and the other children outside, the girl said.

Her leg was bleeding but doctors told her she didn't need surgery, she said.

"I was scared, really, really scared," she said. "I didn't see my dad. I thought he was dead."

Her father, 32-year-old Israel Dahan, said he flipped over a folding table as soon as he saw the man enter carrying a long rifle and told people to run. He went to look for his children and found two had been ushered out and his 5-year-old was hiding in the bathroom, he said.

There were indications an AR-type assault weapon might have malfunctioned after the gunman fired numerous rounds inside, Gore said. An off-duty Border Patrol agent fired at the shooter as he fled, missing him but striking his getaway vehicle, the sheriff said.

Shortly after fleeing, Earnest called 911 to report the shooting, San Diego Police Chief David Nisleit said. When an officer reached him on a roadway, "the suspect pulled over, jumped out of his car with his hands up and was immediately taken into custody," he said. Friends described Kaye as giving, warm and attentive to community members on their birthdays and when they were sick. A wife and mother, she loved gardening and made delicious challah for her family and friends, said Roneet Lev, 55. Goldstein described her as a pioneering founding member of the congregation and said he was heartbroken by her death. He said the attack

could have harmed many more people had the shooter turned toward the sanctuary where so many were praying.

"Lori took the bullet for all of us," the rabbi said, his hands wrapped in bandages. "She didn't deserve to die."

He said that Kaye's physician husband was called to tend to a wounded worshipper and fainted when he realized it was his wife.

When the gunfire erupted, another worshipper, Shimon Abitbul, said he immediately placed his 2-year-old grandson on the floor and waited for a break in the shooting to grab the boy and sprint away. □



Leslie Gollub, left, and Gretchen Gordon hug at a vigil held to support the victims of Saturday's shooting at Chabad of Poway synagogue, Sunday, April 28, 2019, in Poway, Calif.

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Richard Lugar, who helped in securing Soviet arsenal, dies

By TOM DAVIES
Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Richard Lugar worked to alert Americans about the threat of terrorism years before "weapons of mass destruction" became a common phrase following the Sept. 11 attacks.

The longtime Republican senator from Indiana helped start a program that destroyed thousands of former Soviet nuclear and chemical weapons after the Cold War ended — then warned during a short-lived 1996 run for president about the danger of such devices falling into the hands of terrorists.

"Every stockpile represents a theft opportunity for terrorists and a temptation for security personnel who



In a Jan. 16, 2008 file photo, U.S. Senator Richard Lugar, R-Ind., chairman of the U.S. Senate's Foreign Relations Committee, points during a press conference in Kiev, Ukraine.

Associated Press

might seek to profit by selling weapons on the black market," Lugar said in 2005. "We do not want the question posed the day after

an attack on an American military base."

The soft-spoken and thoughtful former Rhodes Scholar was a leading Re-

publican voice on foreign policy matters during his 36 years in the U.S. Senate, but whose reputation of working with Democrats ultimately cost him the office in 2012. He died Sunday at age 87 at a hospital in Virginia, where he was being treated for a rare neurological disorder called chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy, or CIPD, the Lugar Center in Washington said in a statement. Lugar's long popularity in Indiana gave him the freedom to concentrate largely on foreign policy and national security matters — a focus highlighted by his collaboration with Democratic Sen. Sam Nunn on a program under which the United States paid to dismantle and secure thousands of nuclear warheads and missiles in the former Soviet states after the Cold War ended.

"Every stockpile represents a theft opportunity for terrorists and a temptation for security personnel who might seek to profit by selling weapons on the black market," Lugar said in 2005. "We do not want the question posed the day after an attack on an American military base."

He served for decades on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, twice as chairman, where he helped steer arms reduction pacts for the presidential administrations of George H.W. Bush, Bill Clinton and Barack Obama, supported an expansion of NATO and favored aid to Nicaragua's Contra rebels.

"Lugar was a leader not only in the Senate but also on the world stage, where he worked tirelessly to bring pressure to end apartheid in South Africa and enforce treaties that destroyed Soviet weapons of mass de-

struction," Vice President Mike Pence, a former governor of Indiana, said in a statement.

Another former governor, Purdue University President Mitch Daniels, who spent more than a decade as chief of staff to Lugar, said, "The world is safer from nuclear danger because of him. And so many of us, while falling far short of the standards he set, are vastly better people because of him."

Lugar tried to translate his foreign policy expertise into a 1996 presidential run, where his slogan was "nuclear security and fiscal sanity." But his campaign for the GOP nomination went badly from the start. His kickoff rally began just hours after the 1995 bombing of the Oklahoma City federal building, and he struggled to build name recognition and support.

"He is not, nor does he try to be, a good ol' boy," Rex Early, a former state Republican chairman who worked on many of Lugar's campaigns, said during the presidential run. "He is not a back-pounder and doesn't tell funny jokes and have a beer with the boys."

Lugar tried to counter questions about his demeanor, contending that the presidency is "serious business. The presidency is not entertainment." He chafed at criticism that he was too straight, too smart, too dull. "I don't know what that means," he said. "Is it better to have someone stupid? Or mediocre? Or halfway there?"

He withdrew a year into the race after failing to win a single convention delegate, but not before foreshadowing the threat of terrorism that would become all too real on Sept. 11, 2001. □



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Seattle college says student was among those killed by crane

By LISA BAUMANN and RACHEL D'ORO

SEATTLE (AP) — A college freshman was among the four people killed when a construction crane fell from a building and crashed onto one of Seattle's busiest streets, the university said Sunday.

Sarah Wong, who intended to major in nursing, was in a car when the crane fell from a building under construction on Google's new Seattle campus onto Mercer Street Saturday afternoon, according to a statement released by Seattle Pacific University.

All four had died by the time firefighters had arrived Saturday afternoon, Fire Chief Harold Scoggins said. Two were ironworkers who had been inside the crane while the other two were inside a car, Fire Department spokesman Lance Garland said.

The names of those who died are expected to be released Monday.

"While we grieve the sudden and tragic loss of our precious student, we draw comfort from each other," SPU's statement said. "We ask that the community join us in praying for Sarah's family and friends during this difficult time."

The crane struck six cars and also injured four people.

Frank Kuin, a Montreal-based journalist, was in a Seattle hotel lobby when he heard a "big bang" and felt the floor shake. He said he initially thought there had been an earthquake. Then he saw motorists leaving their cars on a nearby offramp and running toward something.

Kuin followed them around a corner and saw a chunk of the crane lying on top of cars, including three that were crushed.

"To imagine what happened to those people who just happened to be driving by was quite shocking," said Kuin, who later took photographs of the

scene from his fifth floor hotel room.

Fire and police crew members work to clear the scene where a construction crane fell from a building on Google's new Seattle campus crashing down onto one of the city's busiest streets and killing multiple people on Saturday. (AP Photo/Frank Kuin)

Officials do not yet know the cause of the collapse. Washington state labor investigators were at the scene of the collapse Sunday, trying to piece together what happened, according to Tim Church, a spokesman for the Washington Department of Labor & Industries.

"It's a very detailed process," he said. "It will actually be months before we have anything regarding the cause."

Church said the agency has formally opened an investigation into four companies — general contractor GLY, Northwest Tower Crane Service Inc., Omega Rigging and Machinery Moving Inc. and Morrow Equipment Co. LLC. Church said he didn't know where the companies are based. The tower crane was being disassembled when it fell from the building, according to Church.

A stretch of Mercer Street remained closed Sunday. Of the injured, a 28-year-old man remained hospitalized in satisfactory condition Sunday at Harborview Medical Center. A mother and her infant were released from the hospital Saturday. The fourth person was treated at the scene and released.

The deadly collapse is sure to bring scrutiny about the safety of the dozens of cranes that dot the city's skyline. With Amazon, Google and other tech companies increasing their hiring in Seattle, the city has more cranes building office towers and apartment



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Emergency crews work the scene of a construction crane collapse near the intersection of Mercer Street and Fairview Avenue near Interstate 5 in Seattle, on Saturday, April 27, 2019.

Associated Press

buildings than any other in the United States. As of January, there were about 60 construction cranes in Seattle. On Saturday, Seattle Mayor Jenny Durkan said the city had a good track record with crane safety but that officials would conduct a review. A line of showers moved over Seattle just about the time the crane fell, the National Weather Service said. An observation station on nearby Lake Union showed winds kicked up with gusts of up to 23 mph at 3:28 p.m., just about the time the crane fell. □

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Vacant land becoming asset as development returns to Detroit

By **COREY WILLIAMS**

DETROIT (AP) — When Fiat Chrysler began considering where to build its next assembly plant, the automaker didn't have to look far to find land.

A short walk from its Jefferson North plant on Detroit's east side is 200 acres (80 hectares) of land the company is eyeing as part of a \$1.6 billion investment to convert its Mack Avenue Engine Complex into a new facility.

Decades of residential flight, disinvestment and abandonment have left the Motor City with something many others just don't have: stretches of available real estate. Unlike many big cities where space is tight and most new buildings must be vertical, Detroit's sprawling empty spaces appeal to some developers.

Detroit is now working to secure the land needed for Fiat Chrysler. Some is home to an old power plant. A tree-planting operation is on another part. A large chunk is privately owned and leased to the automaker as a lot for new vehicles.

Mayor Mike Duggan said in late February that Detroit had 60 days to pull those acres together or the deal with Fiat Chrysler could sputter. Much of the land has been secured, with negotiations continuing with businessman Manuel "Matty" Moroun's family for one section, according to city spokesman Tim Carroll. The Detroit City Council is expected to discuss the city's land acquisition plan as early as Monday.

A new plant is expected to add 3,850 jobs. Fiat Chrysler plans an additional 1,100 new jobs at its adjacent Jefferson North Assembly plant.



FILE- In this Feb. 26, 2019 file photo, Jeep vehicles are parked outside the Jefferson North Assembly Plant in Detroit. When Fiat Chrysler began considering where to build its next assembly plant, the automaker didn't have far to look for land.

Associated Press

The effort is seen as more good news for the city that is still rebounding after its 2014 exit from the largest municipal bankruptcy in U.S. history. Bolstered by auto and other manufacturing jobs, Detroit nearly was bursting at its seams by the 1950s when the city's population rose to about 1.8 million. But white people started to leave the city for the suburbs. The outbound tide swelled following a 1967 race riot. The black middle class followed. Tens of thousands of aging homes that once held families deteriorated. More than 14,000 vacant structures — mostly houses — have been torn down over the past five years as part of the nation's largest demolition program.

About 680,000 people live in the city — 1.2 million fewer than six decades ago. They're not cramped for space: About 14,800 acres (5,990 hectares) of land in Detroit — 16.75% of the city's 88,800 acres (35,940) — are considered vacant, according to Data Driven Detroit.

"Really, in some ways for Detroit to grow it had to shrink," said Clifford Brown, managing partner of Woodborn Partners, which is building a \$16 million mixed-use development in southwest Detroit. "The vacant land is just emblematic of Detroit needed to shrink for a while before it could get healthy. Those who were optimistic said (the city) was just resting." Woodburn Partners' project

will include 60 new apartments and retail space. The land being vacant was part of the appeal, Brown said.

"It's an asset — at least from our perspective," he said. "We like to develop on vacant land."

In the Cleveland area, decisions are made to assemble vacant parcels, side lots and lots with abandoned houses into contiguous pieces that possibly could see redevelopment.

"The land becomes valuable over time once it becomes assembled," said Gus Frangos, Cuyahoga Land Bank president.

But assembling smaller parcels into larger pieces is complicated, said Joe Schilling, senior policy and research associate at the

Washington D.C.-based Urban Institute.

"Even if the land is vacant, it's often owned by multiple entities and some that may no longer exist, whether bankrupt companies or single-family homes," Schilling said.

Land banks can help, he said.

"You've got to have a plan and you also have to have a process that really engages the residents who live in that neighborhood to insure they benefit from the regeneration," Schilling said.

"You can't just do one thing," he said. "You have to build new stuff. You have to reclaim some vacant land. You kind of have to do it all at the same time."

□

Police: 7 shot, 1 fatally, in latest Baltimore shooting

BALTIMORE (AP) — A gunman fired indiscriminately into a crowd that had gathered for Sunday cookouts on a Baltimore street, wounding seven people including one of them fatally, the city's police commissioner said.

Authorities said the gunfire broke out shortly after 5 p.m. on a block in the city's western district lined with brick row homes.

Police Commissioner Michael Harrison said a black male approached a crowd on foot and began firing in what he called "a very tragic, very cowardly shooting." Speaking at the scene afterward, Harrison said the shooting appeared to be "extremely targeted" but he did not immediately elaborate on a possible motive.

The shooting comes roughly six weeks after Harrison's swearing-in last month as Baltimore police commissioner, when he promised to make the city safer and lead the department through sweeping reforms required by a federal consent decree. It's a daunting task in one of the country's poorest major cities where there were more than 300 homicides in each of the past two years. Harrison is the city's 14th police leader since the mid-1990s.

The commissioner said there were two cookouts occurring on opposite sides of the street Sunday, and that shell casings were found in two different locations in the area, indicating that there may have been a second gunman, or someone firing back at the first shooter, who fled on foot. It was unclear whether the cookouts were related, Harrison said.

One man who was shot collapsed behind a Bap-

tist church nearby and was pronounced dead at the scene. Harrison said the six other victims were taken to hospitals, but he didn't release their names and had no immediate information on their conditions.

"It wasn't anything dealing with the church. I want to make that very clear," acting mayor Jack Young said. Harrison and Young urged members of the public to help investigators with any information as to a suspect or a motive.

"Someone knows something," Young said. "These things ... they don't happen by happenstance. People know who's doing these shootings."

The Baltimore Sun reported that bullet casings were found scattered on the ground near grills, and a table still had items on it that appeared to be left from a cookout. Police officers could be seen after the shooting placing small orange evidence markers on the ground, just feet from a barber shop.

Meanwhile, authorities said they would be seeking to interview witnesses who were present during the shooting.

Baltimore has been plagued by drug-fueled violence for decades and it has long been considered one of the nation's most violent big cities. But the corrosive impact of the drug trade and a sea of illegal guns continue to spawn a depressing recurrence of tit-for-tat turf wars and retaliatory attacks in swaths of the city, particularly in the deeply disenfranchised areas of West Baltimore.

While city leaders continue a perennial quest to remake the city in the eyes of potential investors and visitors, Baltimore has been

in the throes of a worrying increase of violent crime since 2015, when the homicide rate spiked after the city's worst rioting in decades following the death of young black man in police custody. □



Police work near the scene where authorities say several people were shot, at least one fatally, Sunday, April 28, 2019, in Baltimore.

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Socialists win Spain election, far-right emerges as player

By ARITZ PARRA
JOSEPH WILSON

MADRID (AP) — Spain's governing center-left Socialists won the country's election Sunday but must seek backing from smaller parties to maintain power, while a far-right party rode an unprecedented surge of support to enter the lower house of parliament for the first time in four decades.

With 99% of ballots counted, the Socialists led by Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez won 29% of the vote, capturing 123 seats in the 350-seat Congress of Deputies. The new far-right Vox party made its national breakthrough by capturing 10% of the vote, which would give it 24 seats.

Sánchez announced that he would soon open talks with other political parties, telling crowds gathered at the gates of his party headquarters in central Madrid that "the future has won and the past has lost." He hinted at a preference for a left-wing governing alliance but also sent a warning to Catalan separatists



Spain's Prime Minister and Socialist Party leader Pedro Sanchez gestures to supporters outside the party headquarters following the general election in Madrid, Spain, Sunday, April 28, 2019.

Associated Press

whose support he may need that any post-electoral pact must respect the country's 1978 constitution, which bans regions from seceding.

Vox's success came at the expense of the once-dominant conservative Popular Party, which fell to 66

seats, losing more than half of its representation since the last election in 2016. The conservatives also lost votes to the center-right Citizens party, which will increase its number of seats from 32 to 57.

Voters in Spain had become disillusioned as the

country struggled with a recession, austerity cuts, corruption scandals, divisive demands for independence from the restive Catalonia region and a rise in far-right nationalism not seen since Spain's dictatorship ended in the 1970s.

"We told you that we were

going to begin a reconquering of Spain and that's what we have done," Vox leader Santiago Abascal said, in reference to the 15th-century campaign by the Spanish Catholic Kings to end Muslim rule in the Iberian Peninsula.

Vox, which was formed five years ago, has promised to defend Spain from its "enemies," citing feminists, liberal elites and Muslims among others. Its emergence on the national stage gives Spain five political parties, furthering political fragmentation in a country that was alternately ruled for decades by the Socialists and the Popular Party.

To stay in office, the Socialists and Sánchez must form a governing alliance with smaller parties, including the far-left United We Can led by Pablo Iglesias.

Iglesias said after the vote he "would have liked a better result, but it's been enough to stop the right-wing and build a left-wing coalition government," adding that he's already offered support to Sánchez. □

Danish lawmaker: euroskeptic EU alliance can have influence



Head of France's National Rally Marine Le Pen, centre, walks with Denmark politician Soeren Espersen, right who is chairman of the Foreign Policy Committee, during a visit to Christiansborg Palace in Copenhagen, Denmark, Friday April 26, 2019.

Associated Press

By JAN M. OLSEN
Associated Press

COPENHAGEN, Denmark (AP) — A senior member of a Danish anti-immigration party said Friday he hopes a new right-wing alliance "can have real influence on European policy for the first time ever" after next month's European Parliament elections.

Soeren Espersen, deputy leader of the euroskeptic Danish People's Party, was referring to the creation of an alliance of populist parties from Italy, Denmark, Germany and Finland.

"What is so exciting about

this new group formation is that you choose two things that matter. The first is to stop mass immigration, and the second is to recreate what (former French President Gen. Charles) De Gaulle called a 'Europe of nations,'" Espersen said.

De Gaulle, who was France's president for a decade from 1959, talked about having a Europe of sovereign states instead of a supranational EU structure.

"This group, if successful, will become a strong group, where we can have real influence on European pol-

icy for the first time ever," Espersen said.

Elections to the European Parliament are held May 23-26 throughout the bloc. Earlier this month, Italy's hard-line interior minister, Matteo Salvini, leader of the anti-migrant League party, presented an alliance with populist parties from Denmark, Germany and Finland. Their goal is to radically transform European Union policies on issues like migration, security, family and the environment. The parties currently sit in other parliamentary groups. □



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Cyprus serial killer case: Body in suitcase pulled from lake

By PETROS KARADJIAS
MENELAOS HADJICOSTIS
Associated Press

MITSERO, Cyprus (AP) — Cypriot investigators hunting for victims of a suspected serial killer retrieved a suitcase containing the decomposing remains of a woman from the bottom of a man-made lake Sunday. The body is believed to be that of one of the victims of a Cypriot military officer who has confessed to killing seven foreign women and girls. The suitcase was weighed down by a concrete block, the chief of Cyprus' Criminal Investigation Department said. Senior Inspector Neophytos Shailos said a coroner who examined the body at the scene said it was in an advanced stage of decomposition. He said a battery of tests and scientific

A diver, left, and an investigator hold a suitcase found in a man-made lake, near the village of Mitsero outside of the capital Nicosia, Cyprus, Sunday, April 28, 2019.

Associated Press

examinations will be conducted to determine the woman's identity. Authorities focused their search on the lake about 32 kilometers (20 miles) west of the capital, Nicosia, after the suspect — a 35-year-

old army captain — told investigators that he put the bodies of three of his victims into suitcases and threw them into the toxic lake, part of a now-defunct copper pyrite mine. Those victims are believed

to be Maricar Valtez Arquiola, 31, from the Philippines; Florentina Bunea, 36, from Romania; and Bunea's 8-year-old daughter, Elena Natalia. Arquiola has been missing since December 2017, while the mother and daughter vanished in September 2016.

Shailos said a coroner who carried out a preliminary examination at the scene determined that the body is of an adult female.

The retrieved suitcase is one of two that were located in the lake Saturday. Shailos said authorities won't retrieve the second one immediately, but will continue scouring the lake for the third suitcase.

The development is the latest in a rapidly unfolding case that has shocked Cypriots who fear a serial killer has been preying on

foreign women who came to work in the east Mediterranean island nation.

The case came to light with the April 14 discovery of the bound body of 38-year-old Mary Rose Tiburcio, from the Philippines, down a flooded shaft near the lake.

The discovery triggered a homicide investigation that led to the captain's arrest before a second woman's body — thought to be that of 28-year-old Arian Palanas Lozano, also from the Philippines — was found in the mineshaft on April 20. Police said the suspect admitted killing them both and they believe that he also killed Tiburcio's 6-year-old daughter, Sierra, who remains missing.

Police initially tracked down the suspect through Tiburcio's computer messages on a dating site. □

Armenian trans woman gets threats after parliament speech

Associated Press

YEREVAN, Armenia (AP) — A transgender woman who broke boundaries with a speech in Armenia's parliament says she has received death threats and is avoiding leaving her home in the backlash to her three-minute address.

Lilit Martirosian told members of parliament's human rights committee on April 5 that the group she founded, Right Side, had recorded 283 cases of transgender rights violations.

"For me, that means that there are 283 criminals in Armenia living next to me and you," Martirosian said during her speech. "And

who knows, maybe a 284th will commit a crime tomorrow."

Some lawmakers immediately expressed their offense. The head of the human rights committee complained Martirosian disturbed a hearing agenda and disrespected parliament.

The next day, hundreds of people protesting outside the parliament building demanded to have the podium Martirosian used fumigated.

One protester brandished a knife at cameras and said he would use it against transgender people. A priest from the dominant

Armenian Apostolic Church said gay sex should be considered a crime punishable by prison.

Armenia decriminalized homosexuality in 2003, but many in the country resist recognizing LGBT rights.

"I received many calls with threats directed against me personally. People would say I needed to be murdered, butchered," Martirosian told The Associated Press on Friday.

Since taking office, Prime Minister Nikol Pashinian has tried to keep a distance from the issue of LGBT rights, calling it "an unnecessary headache to deal with in 10, 20, 30 years." □

In this frame grab taken from the Associated Press Television footage on Friday, April 26, 2019, Lilit Martirosian, a founder of the Armenian transgender organization Right Side, gestures while her interview for the Associated Press in Yerevan, Armenia.

Associated Press

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Afghan women push for voice in talks, fearing loss of rights

By KATHY GANNON
Associated Press

HERAT, Afghanistan (AP) — Afghanistan's women are demanding a seat at the table in negotiations over the country's future, determined to prevent the gains they have made since the 2001 fall of the Taliban from being bargained away. But already, they are meeting resistance to having a strong voice in the talks. Women's rights activists are not just concerned about the Taliban, who were notorious for their repression of women during their rule. They are just as worried that religious conservatives, warlords and strongmen who dominate Afghanistan's U.S.-backed leadership — and whose attitudes toward women often differ little from the Taliban — will trade away their rights to reach a deal.

Pressure is on for a peace accord as the United States seeks to end its long military presence in Afghanistan. For women, the stakes are high. The advances they have made are important — for example, women are now members of parliament, and their rights are enshrined in the constitution, including the right to education.

But the gains are fragile and limited, and nearly 18 years after the U.S.-led coalition ousted the Taliban, Afghan women still live under a crushing weight of discrimination. What laws that do exist are little enforced, activists say, giving male relatives and tribal councils almost complete say over women's and girls' lives. That leaves them vulnerable to violence, early



In this Monday, Feb. 18, 2019, photo, Khadeja, 18, who was burned by a pot of scalding hot water thrown by her husband, shows her wounds, at a women's shelter office in Herat, Afghanistan.

Associated Press

marriage and exclusion from work and education. The 2018 Women, Peace and Security Index rated Afghanistan as the second worst place in the world to be a woman, after Syria. Strong participation in talks is "not a gift, it is our right," said Suraya Pakzad, an activist. "We, the women of Afghanistan, are suffering, fighting to bring peace in Afghanistan, to change Afghanistan."

"We will not allow anyone to push us, to force us to go back," she said. "We know how to raise our voices." Activists are pressing for at least a third of participants in any negotiations to be women.

But so far, the door has been largely closed to them. President Ashraf Ghani appointed only five women to a 37-member

council created to shepherd negotiations. Dozens of women were also taken off the list of planned participants at the first round of all-Afghan talks between the government and Taliban, meant to have been held last week in Qatar. The gathering was cancelled at the last minute because of a separate dispute.

Pakzad was part of a team of women delegates who were told even before the cancellation that they would not be let into the talks. "Women had travelled from far away rural areas, through many Taliban checkpoints in their burqas and passed very dangerous areas to attend," she said.

Activists say the advances for women are erratically enforced and hardly felt in rural areas where most Af-

ghans live.

Only 16 percent of the workforce is women, one of the lowest rates in the world, and half of Afghanistan's women have had four years or less of education, according to data compiled by the Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security and the Peace Research Institute of Oslo. Only around half of school-aged girls go to school, and only 19 percent of girls under 15 are literate, according to The U.N. children's agency.

Most girls are married before 19 to men selected by their parents — and in some villages, girls as young as 7 or 8 are regularly married off. Women who leave an abusive husband or marry a man of their choice risk being imprisoned for "morality crimes."

Pakzad operates women's shelters in western Afghanistan. At one of the shelters, in the western city of Herat, dozens of women and girls struggle with their nightmares.

Alissa, a 16-year-old, has lived in the shelter for five years after escaping her husband. Her family married her to him when she was 6. "I didn't even know what a wedding was," she said, speaking in a near whisper, her head lowered. "All night I was so scared, and the next day I cried and cried."

She wanted to leave, but one of her brothers threatened to kill her if she came home. Finally, after four years with her husband, another brother brought her home. Her mother-in-law demanded her back — or her younger sister, then 7, as compensation. Both girls escaped to the shelter.

She and other girls at the shelter spoke on condition they be identified only by first name, fearing reprisals by family. Another teen, Khadeja, said her father took her out of school after the fifth grade despite her pleas to stay in classes. He then forced her to marry at 16. From the beginning, her husband beat her, often tying her to a tree as he did it, or cut her with knives, she said. When she fled, her father sent her back, telling her "I only want you back home wrapped in the white shroud of the dead." Her husband threw boiling water on her face and body, and for four hours she had to plead to her in-laws to take her to a hospital, in agony as her skin peeled away. □



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160,000 at risk in Mozambique after 2nd cyclone in 6 weeks

By FARAI MUTSAKA
Associated Press

PEMBA, Mozambique (AP) — A second disaster unfolded on Sunday in northern Mozambique in the wake of Cyclone Kenneth as raging flood waters killed one person and began to cut off the region's main city from the outside world. Some 160,000 people were at risk, with more torrential rain forecast for the days ahead.

"Help us, we are losing everything!" residents in Pemba city shouted at passing cars as the rushing waters poured into doorways. Women and girls with buckets and pots tried to scoop away the torrent, in vain. Some houses collapsed, the United Nations said. "It's an awful sense of déjà vu," said Nicholas Finney, response team leader with the aid group Save the Children. Kenneth arrived



In this photo provided by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), badly damaged communities are seen from an aerial view, in Macomia district, Mozambique, on Saturday, April 27, 2019.

Associated Press

just six weeks after Cyclone Idai ripped into central Mozambique and killed more than 600 people with flooding.

This was the first time in recorded history that the southern African nation has been hit by two cyclones in one season, again raising

concerns about climate change.

The new storm's remnants could dump twice as much rain as Idai, the U.N. World Program has said. Up to 100 millimeters (nearly 4 inches) were forecast in the next 24 hours for some parts of the region, according to Mo-

zambique's meteorological institute.

"I have never seen such rains in my life," said one Pemba resident, 35-year-old Michael Fernando.

Residents mourned one death in the Nitate neighborhood after a brick wall fell on a woman and the waters swept her against another building, said community leader Estenacio Pilale.

Other residents tried to pile up tires and sand-filled sacks as barricades. Cars began to slip under the waters.

"We will keep moving until we get somewhere safe," one man said, as people fled carrying belongings in plastic bags. Others showed flashes of impatience. "Will this water ever

give us a break?" Abdul Carimo asked. "The moment we try to do anything with our lives, it starts again." Authorities earlier said at least five people died after Kenneth roared in Thursday evening with the force of a Category 4 hurricane, stunning residents of a region where such a storm had not been recorded in the modern era.

The government said more than 160,000 people have been affected in the largely rural region, many now exposed and hungry. More than 35,000 homes in parts of Mozambique's northernmost Cabo Delgado were partially or fully destroyed by the storm. More than 23,000 people were in shelters, the government said.

□

Thousands march in Hong Kong against extradition law

Associated Press

HONG KONG (AP) — Thousands of protesters marched through downtown Hong Kong on Sunday in opposition to changes to an extradition law widely seen as eroding the territory's independent legal system.

Many of those taking part carried yellow umbrellas, recalling Hong Kong's massive 2014 pro-democracy protests, the leaders of whom have been sentenced to up to 16 months in prison.

Hong Kong police said around 22,800 people took part in Sunday's protest at its peak period.

Participants carried placards accusing Hong Kong



People raise placards reading "Against Extradition law" as thousands of protesters march along a downtown street against the extradition law in Hong Kong Sunday, April 28, 2019.

Associated Press

leader Carrie Lam of "selling out" the territory, and called on her to resign.

Revisions to the law would make it easier to send crim-

inal suspects to mainland China, where they could face vague national security charges and unfair trials. □

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Global migrants' journey stalls in southern Mexico

By MARK STEVENSON

TAPACHULA, Mexico (AP) —

Thousands fleeing conflict or poverty in Nigeria, Cameroon, Bangladesh, Haiti and Cuba have traveled across oceans, through the jungles and mountains of South America, up through Central America, on a route that — so far — ends here: the steamy, crumbling Mexican city of Tapachula, near the Guatemala border.

Over 1,500 of them while away the weeks — or months— in a park dotted by giant ceiba trees and vines, awaiting exit visas that never seem to come, like a Mexican version of the movie "Casablanca." Some say they've given up hope of reaching the United States and just want papers that will allow them to work in Mexico — but northern Mexico, where wages are higher. The government is not prepared to grant that, so it keeps them here, waiting. Perhaps for an asylum ruling, perhaps residency status.

Their lives are a daily round of boredom, a lack of answers from authorities, dirty, overcrowded bathrooms and insufficient food. Those who still have money sometimes sneak out of the compound by jumping a wall and buying their own groceries to cook over open fires. The international melange of migrants seems to share a taste for rice and lentils, not the tortillas, beans and eggs provided by Mexican authorities.

Maureen Meyer, director for Mexico and migrant rights at the Washington Office on Latin America, said that word quickly spread through international smuggling networks that Mexico had become more permissive for migrants. Attention drawn to the large caravans meandering north to the U.S. last year, combined with Mexico's fast-track for thousands of humanitarian visas in January, appeared like welcome mats on the global stage. At the same time, it became more difficult for migrants in Asia or Africa to reach Europe.



A migrant child calls out to a street vendor selling water as he waits with other children inside an area of the Mexican Commission for Refugee Aid office, while their parents fill out paperwork, in Tapachula, Mexico, Friday, April 26, 2019.

Associated Press

Now the Mexican government is trying to get a better handle on the flows -- and perhaps even limit transit visas -- amid pressure from U.S. President Donald Trump to clamp down on migration to the U.S.

"They didn't fully assess the messaging of being a more open country," said Meyer. "It's obviously a very difficult situation" for Mexico.

The backlog on Mexico's southern border also appears, in part, to be a function of budget cuts, as well as the country's limited capacity to handle large numbers of migrants, especially those from distant countries, some of which lack the infrastructure to handle repatriations.

Trump has repeatedly threatened to close the U.S. border with Mexico if the heavy flow of migrants to the U.S. continues.

"The Mexican government's decision to detain as many migrants as possible, after President Trump put pressure on them to do so, has made it clear just how many third-country nationals from outside Central America are actually in the country," said Andrew Selee, president of the Washington-based Migration Policy Institute.

Many of the migrants waylaid in southern Mexico take the interminable wait for visas in stride; they have been through much worse on their long torturous journeys.

"The thief took my backpack, with my telephone, my documents, my passport. He took everything," recounted Paul Eneceron, a 21 year-old economy student from Port-au-Prince, Haiti, who set out on Jan. 13 from Chile — where he worked packing fish and baking cakes for 2 1/2 years — hoping to reach Mexico, where he has relatives among the thousands of Haitians who have settled in Tijuana.

He crossed through Peru, Ecuador and Colombia, but like most, he found the border between Panama and Colombia to be the most dangerous. It is patrolled by bandits toting guns and machetes who call themselves "Los Indios" ("The Indians") even though they have no links to Panama's indigenous population. It was there that the bandits sprang out of the jungle. "He (the robber) pointed the pistol at me and said: 'Hand over everything.' And I gave him my backpack."

One of the longest routes was that traveled by Musa Kolo, a welder from Nigeria. He said he fled violence from the Islamic extremist group Boko Haram in Nigeria's Borno State several months ago and made his way to the Ivory Coast, where he stowed away on a freighter. Once he was discovered, the crew took pity on him and left him off in Brazil, and he made his way up through Colombia and on to Panama. From there the route — now well-worn — leads through Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, Guatemala and finally Mexico.

Like Eneceron, Kolo struggled in the roadless Colombia-Panama border area known as the Darien Gap. In previous months, some migrants had been lucky enough to pay to make the passage on small boats that avoided much of the jungle, and the robbers. But in February one of the boats sank, killing about 19 migrants, and the service was shut down. So migrants like Kolo were left to hike. "I spent nine days in the jungle, walking in the jungle. We had no water, our food finished after about three days because we didn't bring a lot of food. We just

kept on walking."

"Now, I just spend my time praying they will give me my papers," said Kolo, who said he would consider staying to work in Mexico.

The large numbers of trans-continental migrants traversing that dangerous route speaks to the desperation of their situations at home, said Meyer, of the Washington Office on Latin America.

Charles Lwanga, a 38-year-old teacher, said he fled Cameroon two months ago to escape violence against the English-speaking population by the Francophone majority-government there. Lwanga travelled to Ecuador and then headed north, hoping to seek asylum in the United States.

At the Panama-Colombia border, Lwanga was lucky. "My group wasn't robbed," though others were, and he said, "Some people just died out of exhaustion ... We saw bodies, fresh bodies, and skeletons of people who died some time before."

Now, like so many others, after covering so many miles, his trail seems to have ended in Tapachula, where he said immigration authorities endlessly put off any response.

"These are the most arrogant immigration authorities I have seen on this journey," Lwanga said. "Every minute they threaten you, to take you to another camp which is worse than this."

Sometimes migrants travel a staggeringly long way to go just a short distance. Cuba is 90 miles from Florida, but Alain Romero, a baker and desert chef from Havana, has travelled nine months and thousands of miles only to be stalled in southern Mexico.

Romero, who hopes to get a job in the United States and send money back to his wife and two daughters, flew from Cuba to French Guayana, then made his way through Brazil and Colombia to follow the Panama route north, suffering the same brushes with bandits the others did. □

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SAVANETA – May 1st is a national public holiday in Aruba like in many countries worldwide: International Labor Day. This day is to celebrate the achievements of workers. All offices and most stores will be closed on Wednesday May 1st, except for the hotels and the restaurants in the tourist zone with special permits.

Peter J. McGuire, a carpenter and labor union leader, was the person who came up with the idea for Labor Day. He thought American workers should be honored with their own day. He proposed his idea to New York's Central Labor Union early in 1882, and they thought the holiday was a good idea, too.



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A great opportunity to experience something different is to visit the Open House at the Dutch Marines base in Savaneta. Once a year they are open to the public and it may be considered as one of the most popular events on the island. There will be all kind of activities for young and old: zip line, food court, market, used car sale, live music, gun demonstration and activities, the K-9 unit, the special police response unit, RHIB boat rides, coast guard demonstrations, helicopter and lottery. Experience what it's like to be a Marine in the activity village, with an obstacle course, Night Vision Goggles, range firing and so much more. The event starts at 10 AM and continues until 4 PM. Go early to get the best out of it, it is a lot of fun. More information can be gathered at Facebook: [Opendagmarinierskazerne](#). □



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"Pollo a la Brasa, roasted chicken, is a very popular dish in Peru and the first thing my wife does when she visits her home country is paying a visit to Pardos, a well-known chicken rotisserie in Lima. She realized she never found a place like this on the island of Aruba", says Jan. "The seasoning makes the difference and when it lacks the chicken will be dry and without taste. That was our motivation to bring our own charcoal burning rotisserie from Peru, eco-friendly as it traps heat and steam internally meaning there is no smoke." In the United States roasted chicken is a popular dish, now visitors can have a taste of their favorite home-dish, but with the Peruvian twist.

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A family-oriented restaurant is what Asi es mi Peru strives for, and with this extra value of delicious roasted chicken they make this a fact. □



Asi es mi Peru and Las Brasas Peruanas are open for lunch and dinner, check out their Facebook page: AsiEsMiPeru or website www.asiesmiperuenaruba.com.

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Owner of the store, Karin van der Vaart, knows the brand from the inside out as she

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EAGLE BEACH — Right on the foot of Aruba's Eagle Beach, which is a multiple reward-ed beach being the best in the Caribbean, we find Azure Beach Residences, a condominium complex with a plus. Here you not only get the 5-star beach opportunity, but also the top-of-the-bill comfort you desire for your home away from home. The condominiums all have a view overlooking the Caribbean Sea and offer the services of a luxury resort while at the same time you have complete privacy and freedom. It's just the perfect picture.

Tower One: 80% Closed Sale

Enthusiastic sales Manager Marinelda Cartaya has no problems explaining why this is called condominiums with a plus. "All condominiums face the clear blue ocean with the white-sandy beaches, even the ones on the ground floor. Tower I is already completed and space wise you cannot go wrong: the 2 -bedroom condominiums are 1024 sq. ft. and the 3-bedroom units 1670 sq. ft. Storage is included so just leave your chairs and bicycles locked up, even when you rent out your units, rooms are offered in lock offs meaning your personal belongings stay safe in one locked bedroom while the rest of the place can be rented out." Tower 1 only has eight 3-bedroom condos still available, more than 80 % of the sale is closed already.

Tower Two: over 50 % Sold

Tower two is under construction and sales has taken off very well here. More than 50 % is sold including the penthouse, 3-bedroom condos, 2-bedroom condos and one bedroom condos. From the studios only two are left and from the 1-bedrooms only four are left.

Construction Flourish

The good thing about Azure is that the end result can already be shown as Tower 1 is ready, but the progress of Tower 2 also gives significant satisfaction. "The divisions of the different condos are done, the floors are tiled and the tower is being painted. Air-conditioning is installed and the pool is close to finished", Marinelda explains.

Services

"The Club House is finished now and I can tell you honestly that the amenities we have here are unique. They are different from the other condominiums because we have a separate building where we offer a nice lobby, a restaurant bar, the owners club with a pool table, and where you can play chess or any kind of game and an outside area

with BBQ/grills so you can bring your family and friends along", says Marinelda. "It creates that family, intimate, homey feeling. By the way we share amenities with Blue Residences where they have a playground for kids as well as a beach tennis field." Even for breakfast, lunch and dinner one of the best restaurants on the island is right on the premises: Table Kitchen Table by White and opened later this year will be the cafe/bar at Azure's lobby. At Azure Beach Residences you get in touch with the locals when you do your groceries and make this your home, but at the same time you have the luxury of a resort.

"Important to mention is that we are energy efficient as all units have double glass, we use a well reuse "grey" waters for watering the garden and will soon install solar panels for lightning of the common areas. "We aim for an eco-friendly sustainable development" says Marinelda. In her opinion potential buyers want to feel trust and that is exactly what Azure offers.

For more information you can visit the website <http://www.azure-aruba.com>. The sales office is open every week day from 9 AM -5 PM, Saturdays 10 AM - 1 PM. □



Harbour House is another project of this group that is open for sales, offering 94 condominiums, just in front of Renaissance Marina. Studio's and 2-3 bedrooms, a 360 degrees view gym and Jacuzzi on top for people that prefer the vibe of downtown living with amazing ocean views. Located in the former Marazul building. For more information check: www.Harbourhousearuba.com

SPORTS



Lynn goes 7 strong, 4 Rangers homer in rout of Mariners

By ERIK ERICKSON
Associated Press

SEATTLE (AP) — A day after they scored 15 runs, the Rangers kept on bashing the ball all over Safeco Field.

Elvis Andrus, Hunter Pence, Logan Forsythe and Shin-Soo Choo homered, Lance Lynn allowed one run over seven innings and Texas routed the Seattle Mariners again, 14-1.

"We just kept coming," manager Chris Woodward said. "It's a testament to our ballclub and what we prioritize offensively. We are going to keep coming at you."

Coming off a 15-1 win in which they had their most hits (20) and runs of the season, the Rangers had 17 hits Sunday to earn a split of the four-game series with AL West-leading Seattle. Pence was 3-for-5 with four RBIs and two runs scored, and Choo and Danny Santana also had three hits apiece.

"We seemed to really take advantage of any mistakes that were made today," Pence said. "Just kept putting good swings on them and passing the baton, as they say."

Lynn (3-2) had his best start of the year, matching his season highs in innings pitched and strikeouts (nine) and equaling a season low in runs allowed. "They gave me a big lead and I navigated my way through seven," Lynn said. "It was a good team win."

Continued on Page 23



Celtics beat Bucks in openers

Boston Celtics' Kyrie Irving shoots over Milwaukee Bucks' Giannis Antetokounmpo during the second half of Game 1 of a second round NBA basketball playoff series Sunday, April 28, 2019, in Milwaukee. The Celtics won 112-90 to take a 1-0 lead in the series.

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Ryan Palmer and Jon Rahm team to win Zurich Classic

By BRETT MARTEL

AP Sports Writer

AVONDALE, La. (AP) —

Ryan Palmer and Jon Rahm shot a 3-under 69 in the alternate-shot final round of the Zurich Classic on Sunday to win the PGA Tour's only team event by three strokes over Sergio Garcia and Tommy Fleetwood.

The victory was the fourth on the tour for the 42-year-old Palmer, but first in nearly a decade. Having last won in 2010 at the Sony Open in Hawaii, Palmer waved and gave a thumbs-up to TV cameras as he walked up the 18th fairway with a throng of fans applauding his and Rahm's impending triumph.

The 24-year-old Rahm won his third PGA Tour title — one each in three straight seasons. He finished in the top 10 for the seventh time this year, including a tie for ninth at the Masters a couple weeks earlier.

Palmer-Rahm finished with a 26-under 262 total at the TPC Louisiana, which had dried out considerably since heavy rain delayed the first round by more than seven hours and forced many players to play more than 18 holes on Friday and Saturday to get the event back on schedule.



Ryan Palmer, left, and Jon Rahm hold their tournament trophy after winning the PGA Zurich Classic golf tournament at TPC Louisiana in Avondale, La., Sunday, April 28, 2019.

Associated Press

Opening the final round tied atop the leaderboard with Scott Stallings and Trey Mullinax, Palmer-Rahm surged to a two-stroke lead in just two holes after Stallings-Mullinax bogeyed the first hole and Rahm nearly holed out from the fringe to set up Palmer's 1-foot birdie putt on the par-5 second. Palmer-Rahm never lost the lead after that, making birdies on 13 and 14 at virtually the same time Garcia-Fleetwood were

making birdie on 17 and 18. From there, they just had to avoid mistakes — and did. The teams of Kyoung-Hoon Lee-Matt Every and Brian Gay-Rory Sabbatini tied for third, five shots behind. Four teams tied for fifth at 20 under, four more tied for ninth at 19 under and defending champions Billy Horschel and Scott Piercy were among five teams tied for 13th at 18 under. The winners each took home \$1.05 million, moving

Rahm up to nearly \$3.1 million this season and Palmer to about \$2.3 million. Three days of sunshine made the greens increasingly faster, and a number of players struggled to adjust on Sunday, regularly rolling putts several feet past the hole. Palmer and Rahm, however, thrived on the greens. Palmer made two putts from around 6 feet one from 7, one from 8 and one from 11. Rahm made

a 13-foot birdie putt on 10 and dropped in a putt from nearly 24 feet to save par on 15.

The Zurich format was best-ball in the first and third rounds, allowing players to be more aggressive. But bad shots held the potential to derail alternate shot rounds because players had to deal with the lies their teammates left them. Palmer and Rahm didn't misfire often in the final round, but when one of them did, the other responded well.

Rahm slammed his driver into the turf after pulling his tee shot through trees and into the waste bunker on 12. But Palmer responded with a 195-yard shot that landed just short of the green, and sank a 6-foot putt two shots later to save par.

One hole later, Rahm's psyche appeared fully restored as bounced a 71-yard chip off the flag on 13 to set up Palmer's short birdie putt.

By contrast, Stallings-Mullinax faded on the back nine, where they bogeyed the 11th and 13th and double-bogeyed the 16th after Mullinax's tee shot went into the water left of the fairway. □



Dominic Thiem of Austria holds the trophy after winning the final of the Barcelona Open Tennis Tournament against Daniil Medvedev of Russia in two sets 6-4, 6-0, in Barcelona, Spain, Sunday, April 28, 2019.

BARCELONA, Spain (AP) — Dominic Thiem capped an impressive week to win the Barcelona Open on Sunday, securing his second title of the year.

The fifth-ranked Austrian beat Daniil Medvedev 6-4,

6-0 Sunday, a day after he was dominant against Rafael Nadal in the semifinals to become the first player other than Novak Djokovic to defeat the Spaniard on clay four times.

Thiem, who didn't lose a

Thiem beats Medvedev in straight sets to win Barcelona Open

set all week in Barcelona, had beaten Roger Federer in the Indian Wells final last month.

Thiem is the first Austrian winner in Barcelona since Thomas Muster, who won in 1995 and 1996.

"Winning this means a lot to me because it's such a traditional and special tournament," Thiem said. "Only great players have won here."

Rafa has won it 11 times and it means a lot that Muster won it twice. It's a big moment for me."

Thiem had lost to Nadal in the Barcelona final two years ago. It was his first final on clay since last year's French Open, when he also

lost to the Spaniard.

The 14th-ranked Medvedev, coming off a semifinal appearance in Monte Carlo, was playing in his first clay court final. He has reached at least the semifinals in five of his nine tournaments this season and has a tour-best 25 wins in 2019.

The 23-year-old Russian started well by taking a 3-0 lead with an early break in the first set, but he was never in contention again after Thiem took control of a match that lasted just more than an hour.

Thiem dropped only five points in the second set, winning 14 in a row at one stage. He won 12 of the last

13 games.

"I tried my best, but Dominic was too good today," Medvedev said. "At one point, even just getting a point off him was a great achievement."

It was the 13th career singles title for the 25-year-old Thiem, the ninth on clay. He next plays in Madrid, where he has been runner-up the last two seasons.

"A title like this always gives you a lot of confidence, so I'll be in a good mood going into Madrid," Thiem said. "But the special thing about tennis is that I'll start from zero in Madrid. All the guys there are really strong, so I'll need to be ready from the first point." □

Irving, Horford lead Celtics past Bucks 112-90 in opener

By RICH ROVITO

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Al Horford stood his ground as Giannis Antetokounmpo charged his way.

Antetokounmpo, the Milwaukee Bucks' MVP candidate, desperately wanted to provide a spark and cut into a second-half lead against Horford's Boston Celtics in the opener of a second-round playoff series on Sunday. He drove hard into the lane, quickly switched directions and tried to lay the ball up over Horford, who met him at the rim and blocked the shot.

Antetokounmpo corralled the ball and went up a second time only to be met by Horford again, who this time spiked the ball to the court.

The Celtics clamped down on Antetokounmpo all game and cruised past the Bucks, 112-90.

"Our focus was to make sure that we just made it tough on him every time, just making sure he earned everything he got," Horford said. "I felt like we did a pretty good job of that."

Kyrie Irving had 26 points and 11 assists, tying his playoff career high, and Horford added 20 points and 11 rebounds to pace Boston, which controlled the game for long stretches while playing stingy defense against Antetokounmpo.

Jaylen Brown chipped in with 19 points and Gordon Hayward had 13 off the bench for the Celtics.

Antetokounmpo scored 22 points but shot just 7 for 21. He didn't make his first field goal until the first minute of the second quarter.

"It was one of the toughest losses we've ever had, all season, especially at home," Antetokounmpo said.

Game 2 is Tuesday in Milwaukee.

Bucks coach Mike Budenholzer is expecting his star player to bounce back.

"As great as he's been, he hasn't been perfect every

night," Budenholzer said. "He's hard on himself, so there will probably be some point where I put my arms around him and tell him, 'You're going to be great.'" Khris Middleton had 16 for Milwaukee, which completed a four-game sweep of the Detroit Pistons on Monday and advanced to the second round of the playoffs for the first time since 2001. The Celtics came off a sweep of their own against Indiana.

The Celtics knocked Milwaukee out of the playoffs in seven games last year, winning the final game at home. This year, Milwaukee is the top seed in the East and has home-court advantage throughout the postseason after posting the NBA's best record, but Boston didn't play like an underdog in any way.

The Celtics jumped out early, leading by as many as 11 in the opening quarter. Boston shot 52% while the Bucks shot only 5 of 19.

The shooting woes continued for the Bucks until midway through the second quarter, when Milwaukee used a 15-0 run to pull even at 40. The teams then traded baskets with the Celtics grabbing a 52-50 lead at the half.

Boston used a 9-0 run in the third quarter to again build a double-digit lead, which grew to as much as 21 as Milwaukee again failed to make shots.

"This is a hard team to play against," Celtics coach Brad Stevens said. "That wasn't their best game."

Irving thinks the Celtics have been rounding into shape in the playoffs after an uneven regular season.

"We were dealing with our ups and downs, but I think we just have an appreciation for the group that we have," he said.

TIP-INS

Celtics: Boston players wore a black stripe with the No. 17 on their jerseys to honor Hall of Famer John Havlicek, who died Thursday at the age of 79. The team

won eight championships during Havlicek's 16 seasons with the Celtics. Havlicek was the MVP of the 1974 NBA Finals when the Celtics defeated the Bucks in Game 7 at the MECCA in Milwaukee. A moment of silence was held before tipoff. ... G Marcus Smart traveled to Milwaukee but wasn't in uniform. Smart has been out since suffering a left oblique tear on April 7. Smart has been practicing with the team but isn't expected play in Game 2 either. "I don't see any way that he's available until what we thought initially, four to six (weeks) and I said at the start that four



Boston Celtics' Al Horford is fouled by Milwaukee Bucks' Giannis Antetokounmpo during the second half of Game 1 of a second round NBA basketball playoff series Sunday, April 28, 2019, in Milwaukee.

Associated Press

seems awfully aggressive," Stevens said. ...F/C Aron Baynes left the game in the third quarter after rolling his left ankle.

Bucks: Starting guard Mal-

colm Brogdon, who is recovering from a partially torn plantar fascia in his right foot, remained out but took part in shooting drills before the game. □

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Durant's 35 points carry Warriors past Rockets in Game 1

By JANIE McCAULEY

AP Sports Writer

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) —

Kevin Durant scored 35 points in outdueling James Harden and the Golden State Warriors held off the Houston Rockets 104-100 on Sunday in the opener of what is shaping up to be a sensational best-of-seven Western Conference semi-final.

Houston's Chris Paul was ejected with 4.4 seconds left for a second technical. He had rebounded a missed 3-pointer by Harden that could have tied the game with 9 seconds left and was arguing for a foul. Draymond Green added 14 points, nine assists and nine rebounds for the two-time defending champion Warriors, who are meeting



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the Rockets in the postseason for the fourth time in five years and with Houston having never been victorious.

Harden scored 35 points and Eric Gordon 27 after both struggled early finding their shooting strokes for the cold-shooting Rockets. They shot 14 for 47 from

long range and were without reserve guard Austin Rivers because of an illness. Harden's three-point play with 40 seconds left pulled Houston within 100-98. Stephen Curry knocked down a 3 on the other end over Nene moments later and finished with 18 points, seven rebounds and four as-

sists.

Durant, who had combined for 95 points the previous two games against the Clippers, shot 11 for 25 and made 12 of 15 free throws in his fifth straight 30-point playoff performance — matching his career-best streak accomplished from June 1-12, 2017.

Technical fouls on Paul and Rockets coach Mike D'Antoni 2.1 seconds apart in the final minute of the third allowed the Warriors to take an 83-76 lead into the final 12 minutes after Durant converted the free throws.

Game 2 is Tuesday night back at Oracle Arena.

Klay Thompson scored 13 points on a sprained right ankle.

Both Curry and Thomp-

son had been listed as questionable nursing tender right ankles after they each sprained them in Game 6 against the Clippers on Friday night. Curry was cleared beforehand but Thompson had to go through warmups before Golden State's medical staff determined he was fine to play.

Coach Steve Kerr went with Andre Iguodala over 7-foot center Andrew Bogut in the starting five to go smaller out of the gates against the Rockets — the group Kerr has called his best lineup.

Iguodala picked up two quick fouls and Kevon Looney entered and made his first three shots.

These West powerhouses fought through a seven-game series in last year's Western Conference finals, when Golden State rallied from a 3-2 deficit to win Game 7 on Houston's home floor.

Paul is on a mission after he sat out the final two games because of an injured right hamstring he hurt in Game 5. He had 17 points Sunday. The Rockets missed their final 27 3-pointers in the deciding 2018 game and came out cold again.

When Houston missed a 3 on its initial shot of the game, Golden State fan Jones Castro yelled "O for 28!" He added an "O for 29!" moments later and the Rockets missed their first eight from deep overall before Harden connected at the 4:35 mark of the first.

Houston was 1 for 14 from deep in the first and fell behind 28-19. Gordon missed his first six 3s.

Green picked up his third technical of the postseason 3:13 before halftime and would receive an automatic suspension if he reaches seven.

FAMILIAR FOE

With the Warriors having such a quick turnaround from winning Game 6 on the road, it's nice to know Houston so well.

Aside from last year's West final, Golden State beat the Rockets in 2015 on the way to the finals and their first championship in 40 years. □

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Chase Elliott wins Cup race at Talladega, 1st win for Chevy

By JOHN ZENOR
AP Sports Writer

TALLADEGA, Ala. (AP) — Chase Elliott felt right at home, embraced by fans at a track a few hours from home and one where his father celebrated victory a couple of decades before. This time it was Chase's turn. Elliott won the Cup Series race Sunday at Talladega Superspeedway, giving Chevrolet its first victory of the season. He finished well in the clear from a race-ending crash that flipped Kyle Larson a half-dozen times.

Elliott took the lead shortly after a restart with four laps to go and worked with three other Chevy drivers to hold off the rest of the field. He won for the first time since October and went to victory lane about 150 miles from his hometown in Georgia.

His Hall of Fame father Bill Elliott won twice at Talladega in the 1980s.

"Dad's history, obviously very cool," Chase Elliott said. "To me the biggest piece of today was just how much of a home race it felt like after the race. I was blown away by the people and how fired up everybody was. That was an unbelievable experience. We are close to home, so that's cool, and they made me feel that way."

"I couldn't ask for much more there."

His father was back in Georgia driving in a vintage cars race. (He won, too), Hendrick Motorsports teammate Alex Bowman finished second, followed by rookie Ryan Preece, Joey Logano and another rookie, Daniel Hemric.

Elliott is the sixth driver to win through 10 Cup races this season and locked up a playoff spot.

Elliott credited a meeting

with all Chevy drivers for the late-race teamwork.

The race ended under caution after David Ragan hit William Byron, who tagged Kyle Larson and sent him sliding across the track. Larson then flipped half a dozen times before coming to a stop.

"That was probably the longest flip I've ever had," Larson said. "I haven't seen a replay of it. I didn't know if it would ever stop. I knew I was flipping and was just hoping that I wasn't going to get any closer to the catch fence, so it was a little bit scary, but thankfully I'm all right."

The 2019 aerodynamics package had cars reaching higher speeds than NASCAR wanted in practice, so officials tried to slow them down with a late rules tweak. But the changes made the cars go even faster, leaving many veterans wary of the closing speeds and potential for chaos and high-speed crashes.

But the race was mostly wreck-free — until the final lap.

Elliott's victory ended a seven-race winning streak for Ford at Talladega. Penske Racing had won six of the last nine.

But it was a Chevy celebration — for a change.

"We needed to win this," said Alan Gustafson, Elliott's crew chief. "We needed to consolidate our efforts. We needed to break the streak that one of our rivals has here."

Bowman didn't get a chance to try any last-gasp attempts to pass his Hendrick Motorsports teammate because of the caution.

"Well, I'm not just going to let him win, right?" Bowman said.

"I've got to try. I knew I



Chase Elliott celebrates after winning a NASCAR Cup Series auto race at Talladega Superspeedway, Sunday, April 28, 2019, in Talladega, Ala.

Associated Press

could get to his quarter panel. I was pretty confident I could get to his quarter panel in the tri-oval and who knows who's going to get to the line first at that point. I thought I could do it, but it depends on the car behind you and where he goes. It would have been fun to try.

LATE MELEE

Martin Truex Jr.'s race essentially ended with seven laps to go.

Aric Almirola turned Chris Buescher, who was vying for the 10th spot, coming out of Turn 2 and caused a four-car wreck that included Truex and brought out a red flag. Buescher slammed into the wall and started spinning.

Matt DiBenedetto had no-

where to go and rammed into Buescher's rotating Chevy, lifting it several feet off the track. Buescher car then hit Truex and Justin Haley.

EARLY EXITS

It didn't take long for the first wreck at Talladega Superspeedway. The first one caught up Stewart-Haas Racing teammates Clint Bowyer and Kevin Harvick. Bubba Wallace and Ryan Blaney tangled on Lap 10 to touch off the crash that also caught up Daytona 500 winner Denny Hamlin. Wallace went low, got sideways and then slid back across the track, slamming into Michael McDowell and causing heavy damage to both cars. Harvick, McDowell and Wallace were

knocked out of the race. Hamlin joined them in the pits a short time later.

TOYOTA'S TROUBLES

It was a tough day for Toyota, with the only Top 10 finish with Kyle Busch at No. 9. Martin Truex Jr., Hamlin and Matt DiBenedetto were caught up in wrecks.

STILL STREAKING

Seven-time series champion Jimmie Johnson ran over a piece of debris, punctured a tire and hit the wall early in the race. He fell several laps behind the leaders and extended his career-long winless streak to 69 races.

UP NEXT

The Cup Series moves to Delaware next Sunday for the Dover 400. Elliott is the defending race winner. □

Hurricanes rally past Islanders to take 2-0 series lead

By VIN A. CHERWOOD

AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Outplayed for much of the first two periods while losing players to injuries, the Carolina Hurricanes scored two quick goals early in the third period and held on for another big road victory. Warren Foegele and Nino Niederreiter scored 48 seconds apart to rally the Hurricanes to a 2-1 victory over the New York Islanders on Sunday and a 2-0 series lead in the Eastern Conference semifinals.

"We knew we had to make sure to come out hungry going to the third period," Niederreiter said.

Petr Mrazek stopped nine of 10 shots he faced before leaving with an injury 6 1/2 minutes into the second period. Curtis McElhinney came on and finished with 17 saves to help Carolina win for the sixth time in its last seven playoff games.

"He's been huge," Foegele said about McElhinney. "It's not easy coming off the bench there and haven't faced a shot for 30 minutes or so and come up big with some stellar saves."

The Hurricanes opened the first round with losses at Washington, before evening the series at home. They then lost Game 5 on the road before tying it at home again and then winning a marathon Game 7 on the Capitals' ice in two overtimes to advance.

Now, after winning two in New York, they're heading home with the series lead and a chance at a sweep if



Carolina Hurricanes left wing Warren Foegele (13) attacks New York Islanders goaltender Robin Lehner (40), of Sweden, during the first period of Game 2 of an NHL hockey second-round playoff series, Sunday, April 28, 2019, in New York.

Associated Press

they can win the next two. "It's huge taking two on the road here," Foegele said. "We just got to focus, regroup and worry about the next game. Last series we were down 2-0 and we knew we had to come back, so they're definitely going to be thinking that right now."

Mathew Barzal scored and Robin Lehner made with 16 saves for the Islanders. New York, which had home-ice advantage in a seven-game series for the 15th time, has opened with two losses for the first time.

"We were much better than the night before (in Game 1)," Islanders captain Anders Lee said. "Now we got to go into their building and

do what they did to us." Game 3 is Wednesday night in Raleigh, North Carolina.

The Hurricanes also lost defenseman Trevor Riemsdyk to a shoulder injury in the opening minute of the game, and forward Saku Maenalanen to an upper body injury in the third.

Trailing 1-0 after two periods, the Hurricanes took the lead early in the third. Foegele tied, taking a pass from Lucas Wallmark and beating Lehner inside the right post from the right faceoff dot 17 seconds in. It was his fifth goal of the postseason.

Niederreiter, who began his career with the Islanders and had an assist on Jor-

dan Staal's winner in OT in Game 1, put the Hurricanes ahead when he redirected a shot by Teuvo Teravainen for his first of the playoffs at 1:05.

McElhinney stopped a shot by Anthony Beauvillier 5:15 into the third, and then stuffed a try by Barzal with just under 11 minutes left.

Then, with New York on a power play, McElhinney saved Josh Bailey's attempt from the left doorstep to preserve the lead. After the penalty expired, Jordan Eberle's shot from in front hit the crossbar and stayed out with 7 1/2 minutes remaining.

The Islanders' Ryan Pulock also hit the crossbar with 1:02 left.

"We had some looks," Bailey said. "Hit a couple of posts in the third. It could have been a different game, but that's hockey sometimes."

The Hurricanes had a two-man advantage for 1:25 early in the second after Eberle and Scott Mayfield were both called for slashing penalties, but couldn't get any shots on goal during the 5-on-3.

Mrazek was replaced by McElhinney during a broadcast timeout 6:27 into the middle period. The Hurricanes later announced he had a lower-body injury. McElhinney, making his first appearance of the postseason, stopped an attempt by Matt Martin and ensuing follow by Mayfield near the midpoint of the period, and then had a nice glove save on another try by Mayfield later in the period to keep the Hurricanes within one.

Devon Toews appeared to double the Islanders' lead with 15 seconds to go in the second after the rebound of his backhand shot went in off his skate. However, the goal was waved off by the officials for kicking the puck in.

Barzal gave the Islanders a 1-0 lead with his first career playoff goal, a power-play score with 6:43 left in the opening period. Barzal got the puck on the left side of the net and sent a pass across the crease toward Josh Bailey, but the puck deflected off the stick of Hurricanes defenseman Jaccob Slavin and up into the top right corner. □

Kipchoge wins London Marathon for record 4th time

LONDON (AP) — Eliud Kipchoge of Kenya ran the second-fastest time ever to win the London Marathon for a record fourth time Sunday, and compatriot Brigid Kosgei swept to victory by almost two minutes in the women's race.

The 34-year-old Kipchoge pulled clear of Ethiopian runners Mosinet Geremew and Mule Wasihun in the final 10 minutes to complete the 26.2-mile (42.2-kilometer) course in 2 hours,

2 minutes, 37 seconds on a blustery day in the British capital.

Only Kipchoge has run a marathon quicker than that, when breaking the world record in Berlin in September in a time of 2:01:39. With more twists and turns, London is typically a slower course than Berlin — making Kipchoge's display even more exceptional.

"I'm happy to win on the streets of London for the

fourth time and to make history on a day that the event has raised 1 billion pounds (\$1.3 billion)," said Kipchoge, who won in London in 2015, '16 and '18.

Geremew finished 18 seconds behind, and Wasihun a further 21 seconds back. Nobody has run quicker to finish a marathon in second or third place.

Home favorite Mo Farah — a four-time Olympic champion on the track — could not live with the pace,

dropping away at the 14-mile mark and finishing a distant fifth at the end of a week when he was involved in an extraordinary public feud with retired distance-running great Haile Gebrselassie.

Kosgei bettered her second-place finish in last year's race by winning in 2:18:20 for her second victory in the World Marathon Majors, after Chicago last year. She ran the quickest-ever second half of a wom-

en's marathon.

Compatriot and defending champion Vivian Cheruiyot finished in a time of 2:20:14 and Roza Dereje of Ethiopia was third, 37 seconds further back.

Dan Romanchuk, a 20-year-old American, won the men's wheelchair race ahead of Switzerland's Marcel Hug. The women's wheelchair race was won comfortably by Switzerland's Manuela Schar, the 2017 champion. □



Texas Rangers starting pitcher Lance Lynn throws against the Seattle Mariners in the first inning of a baseball game Sunday, April 28, 2019, in Seattle.

Associated Press

Continued from Page 17

Entering the series with a thin bullpen, the Rangers were forced to use 10 relievers in the first two games against Seattle but got seven innings from Mike Minor on Saturday and Lynn on Sunday.

Lynn has put together quality starts in three of his last six outings and picked up his second win in as many career outings against the Mariners.

"It's amazing the competitiveness we get from every pitch," Woodward said. "He just never gives in."

Andrus and Pence each hit two-run homers off Eric Swanson (0-3) during a four-run third. Pence fell behind 0-2 before hitting his third home run of the year, extending the lead to 5-0.

Texas scored four more runs in the fifth to chase Swanson, thanks in part to errors by shortstop Tim Beckham and left fielder Domingo Santana. The Mariners committed four errors Sunday and lead the AL with 36 errors this season, including 11 by Beckham, who has the most in the majors. Seattle also committed three errors in Saturday's loss. "There are plays — it's the big leagues — that need to be made," Mariners manager Scott Servais said. "Our guys know that. It isn't for lack of work and trying to get through it. We've had stretches where we play very poor defense and stretches where we play six-seven games and we're making all the plays and we roll."

Seattle's third error, a

botched ground ball by second baseman Dee Gordon with two outs in the eighth, enabled Forsythe's three-run homer off Anthony Swarzak, extending Texas' lead to 13-1.

"Last night we got behind the eight-ball, and again today," Servais said. "And (we didn't) make the plays defensively that we need to. Last couple days we've been on the bad side of it. You have to make plays. You have to catch the ball in this league."

Choo homered in the ninth, his third of the season.

Swanson, still in search of his first major league victory, allowed nine runs, six earned, on 11 hits in four innings.

Ryon Healy drove in Seattle's only run with a ground-out in the fourth. Daniel Vogelbach went 2-for-3 with a double for the Mariners, who are 5-11 in their last 16 games.

MOVING UP

Andrus' home run in the third was his 1,596th hit as a Ranger, moving him past Juan González for fourth in club history.

TRAINER'S ROOM

Rangers: 2B Asdrubal Cabrera was out of the lineup for the third straight game with a sore calf. Cabrera was injured in the second inning of Seattle's 14-2 win on Thursday.

Seattle: CF Mitch Haniger was out of the lineup with a sore shoulder after landing awkwardly trying to make a catch in the eighth inning Saturday night. Haniger will be further evaluated after Monday's day off, Servais said. □



Seattle Sounders forward Jordan Morris tries to score against Los Angeles FC forward Latif Blessing and goalkeeper Tyler Miller in the second half of an MLS soccer game in Seattle, Sunday April 28, 2019.

Associated Press

Sounders, Los Angeles FC play to 1-1 tie

By **MARK MOSCHETTI**

Associated Press

SEATTLE (AP) — When his Seattle Sounders salvaged a tie against San Jose last Wednesday, coach Brian Schmetzer wasn't shy about saying it felt like a loss. He had a far different feeling about another tie Sunday. Jordan Morris scored for the Sounders in the first minute and Carlos Vela countered for Los Angeles FC three minutes later in a 1-1 draw. The Sounders (5-1-3), who were routed 4-1 by LAFC last Sunday in California, played the final 72 minutes of regulation with 10 men after Cristian Roldan was sent off with a straight red card in the 18th minute. They also lost Kelvin Leerdam to a red card during second-half stoppage time after he tripped Diego Rossi on a breakaway just outside the penalty area.

"It's pro sports there are no moral victories," Schmetzer said. "But this is about as close as it gets. These type of matches are critical to have, and have players step up. When the chips are down and you're under duress and the team has a performance like that, it makes me proud."

Morris put the Sounders on the board with just 46 sec-

onds elapsed. Leerdam took control on the attacking right side. He sent it through to Morris, who took it into the box and, from the right of the penalty spot, fired to the back left corner for his fourth of the season. It was the second-earliest goal in team history. The only one earlier was 23 seconds in by Clint Dempsey against San Jose on March 14, 2015.

League scoring leader Vela tied it three minutes later for Los Angeles (7-1-2). Jordan Harvey sent a long ball down the left side, and Diego Rossi caught up with it. He crossed it into the box, and goalkeeper Stefan Frei came out to play it at the near post. But it went beyond his reach, dropping onto Vela's foot at the far post for an easy redirect for his 11th goal.

"We gave up an early goal and responded really well," Los Angeles coach Bob Bradley said. "Then we have a long time to try to get another goal. It's just a matter in those situations of can you be sharp, can you get the timing, can you really make a play? We kept trying. It was just a day when we couldn't make a play when it mattered."

In the 18th minute, Roldan

and LAFC's Mark-Anthony Kaye got into a shoving match near the midfield line. Eduard Atuesta ran in to intervene, and Roldan tried to push him off, but struck Atuesta across the face. Referee Ted Unkel, after a discussion with the sideline official, pulled out the red card, dismissing Roldan for violent conduct. Roldan did not dispute the hand-to-the-face call. But he insisted that it was not his intent. "I make a good tackle, the ball goes out of bounds. I'm rushed by Kaye and I get pushed, so I defend myself and push him back," Roldan said. "I get pushed again by another guy (Atuesta) and my hands go up in the air - completely accidental. I'm not here to disagree (with the call). But to be honest, it was not deliberate. It was a huge game, and I never want to hurt my team in any way." LAFC dominated possession (73 to 27 percent), and outshot the Sounders, 21-4. They had a wide-open chance for a go-ahead goal in the 48th minute when Christian Ramirez was standing alone in front of the left post, just a yard in front of the net. But his shot off his right foot flew over the top.

Coming to store shelves: cameras that guess your age and sex

By JOSEPH PISANI

AP Retail Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Eyeing that can of soda in the supermarket cooler? Or maybe you're craving a pint of ice cream? A camera could be watching you. But it's not there to see if you're stealing. These cameras want to get to know you and what you're buying.

It's a new technology being trotted out to retailers, where cameras try to guess your age, gender or mood as you walk by. The intent is to use the information to show you targeted real-time ads on in-store video screens.

Companies are pitching retailers to bring the technology into their physical stores as a way to better compete with online rivals like Amazon that are already armed with troves of information on their customers and their buying habits.

With store cameras, you may not even realize you are being watched unless you happen to notice the penny-sized lenses. And that has raised concerns over privacy.

"The creepy factor here is definitely a 10 out of 10," said Pam Dixon, the executive director of the World Privacy Forum, a nonprofit that researches privacy issues.

At the National Retail Federation trade show in New York earlier this year, a smart shelf on display by Mood Media tried to detect "happiness" or "fear" as people stood in front it — information a store could use to gauge reaction to a product on the shelf or an ad on a screen. Cineplex Digital Media showed off



This March 7, 2019, photo shows a smart shelf area at Walgreen's in Chicago.

Associated Press

video screens that can be placed in malls or bus stops and try to tell if someone is wearing glasses or sporting a beard, which in turn can be used to sell ads for new frames or razors.

The screens can also be placed at the drive-thru. A minivan pulling into a fast food restaurant, for example, might get an ad for a family-sized meal on the video screen menu.

For now, the cameras are in just a handful of stores. Kroger, which has 2,800 supermarkets, is testing cameras embedded in a price sign above shelves in two stores in the suburbs outside Cincinnati and Seattle. Video screens attached to the shelves can play ads and show discounts. Kroger said the cameras guess a shopper's age and sex but the information is anonymous and the data is not being stored. If the tests work out well, the company said it could expand it into other

locations.

Walgreens, which has more than 8,000 drugstores, installed cooler doors with cameras and sensors at six locations in Chicago, New York, San Francisco and Bellevue, Washington. Instead of the usual clear glass doors that allow customers to see inside, there are video screens that display ads along with the cooler's contents.

Above the door handle is a camera that can try to guess ages and track irises to see where you are looking, but Walgreens said those functions are off for now. The company said the cameras are currently being used to sense when someone is in front of the cooler and count the number of shoppers passing by. It declined to say if it will turn on the other functions of the camera.

"All such enhancements will be carefully reviewed and considered in light of

any consumer privacy concerns," Walgreens said.

Advocates of the technology say it could benefit shoppers by showing them discounts tailored to them or drawing attention to products that are on sale. But privacy experts warn that even if the information being collected is anonymous, it can still be used in an intrusive way.

For instance, if many people are eyeing a not-so-healthy dessert but not buying it, a store could place it at the checkout line so you see it again and "maybe your willpower breaks down," said Ryan Calo, a professor at the University of Washington School of Law and co-director of its Tech Policy Lab.

"Just because a company doesn't know exactly who you are doesn't mean they can't do things that will harm you," Calo said.

The technology could also lead to discriminatory

practices, like raising prices when an older person walks in or pushing products based on your perceived mood such as ads for anti-depression medication if the cameras think you look sad, adds Dixon of the World Privacy Forum.

"We shouldn't be gathering the emotional state of anyone," Dixon said.

At a Walgreens in New York, a sign above a rack of wines said the store is testing cameras and sensors that "do not identify you or store any images." The sign doesn't say where the cameras or sensors are, but it does have a web address for the privacy policy of Cooler Screens, the company that makes the doors.

Calvin Johnson, who was looking for a Snapple, said he visited the store before, but didn't notice the cameras until a reporter pointed them out.

"I don't like that at all," Johnson said.

Another shopper, Ray Ewan, said he noticed the lenses while grabbing a Diet Coke, but isn't concerned since cameras are hard to avoid.

"There's one on each corner," Ewan said.

Not all retailers are keen on adding embedded cameras. Walmart's Sam's Club, which is testing shelves with digital price tags, is cautious about them.

"I think the most important thing you do with tech like that is to make sure people know," said John Furner, Sam's Club's CEO. "You don't want to surprise people on how you use technology or data."

Jon Reilly, vice president of commerce strategy at consultancy Publicis.Sapient, said retailers risk offending customers who may be shown ads that are aimed at a different gender or age group. Nonetheless, he expects the embedded cameras to be widely used in the next four years as the technology gets more accurate, costs less and shoppers become used to it. For now, he said, "we are still on the creepy side of the scale." □



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Make a home down payment without wrecking your finances

By BARBARA MARQUAND
Associated Press

Maximizing a home down payment can make sense: The bigger the down payment, the lower the monthly mortgage bill and the better the chance of building equity more quickly. But putting too much down could leave you without enough cash for home maintenance — or anything else. Pinpointing the right amount involves balancing the advantages of boosting the down payment against the need to hold back money for urgent upgrades, life's emergencies, and having some fun with your new home.

"There's really no one-size-fits-all solution," says Jason Speciner, a certified financial planner in Fort Collins, Colorado.

THE EFFECT OF A HIGHER DOWN PAYMENT

Calculating how different down payments would affect a monthly mortgage payment is eye-opening. Some lenders require only 3% down for conventional home loans, which makes getting in the door easier but means assuming more debt than with higher down payments.

Many borrowers ask if they should scrape together a little more, such as 5% ver-



In this Feb. 21, 2019, file photo a recently constructed home, left, is reflected in water, in Natick, Mass.

sus 3%, says Rick Bechtel, head of U.S. residential lending at TD Bank. But that probably wouldn't make enough difference in the monthly mortgage payment to justify doing so if it left you strapped, he says. "The need for post-closing cash is always greater, and sometimes significantly so, than people expect," he says. But a higher down payment can make a significant difference if it means lowering or avoiding mortgage insurance.

The insurance, which can involve upfront and monthly fees, protects the lender if the borrower defaults. Depending on the type of loan, making a higher down payment may eliminate some of that expense, if not all of it. Kristin Phillips, a Tampa, Florida, psychologist and author of The Debt Shrink blog, says she and her husband, Brandon, couldn't put down the traditional 20%, but they wanted to put down more than the minimum when they

bought a home in 2013.

"Ten percent was a good compromise," she says. That kept the monthly mortgage under 25% of their income so they could live comfortably. Eventually they made extra mortgage payments to build enough equity to eliminate private mortgage insurance.

BORROW WITH CARE

When deciding on down payment size, consider its effect on other aspects of your financial plan.

Twenty-nine percent of

homeowners ages 21 to 34 borrowed from retirement accounts to help fund down payments, according to the Bank of the West's 2018 Millennial Study. But the decision to do so shouldn't be taken lightly. Borrowing from a 401(k) is particularly risky. After a job loss, the loan must be repaid by the next tax filing deadline or it's taxed as ordinary income, with a 10% penalty if the withdrawal is taken before age 59½.

Using a Roth IRA to boost a down payment is a better option, says Aaron Clarke, a certified financial planner and wealth adviser at Halpern Financial in Ashburn, Virginia. There are no taxes or penalties on withdrawals of contributions. First-time home buyers who have contributed to a Roth for at least five years can withdraw up to \$10,000 of earnings on the contributions, tax- and penalty-free. But Linda Rogers, a certified financial planner and owner of Planning Within Reach in Memphis, Tennessee, says she doesn't recommend borrowing from retirement savings. Many people are behind on saving anyway, she says, and borrowing from an IRA means losing tax-free growth. □

Associated Press

Deutsche Bank lowers outlook as revenues disappoint

Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) — Deutsche Bank said Friday its net income profit rose 67 percent in the first quarter, though revenue dropped 9 percent as proceeds from trading declined sharply. The company lowered its revenue outlook for the year.

Germany's biggest bank reported details of its January-March earnings a day after it abandoned talks on a possible merger with German peer Commerzbank. It said net profit was 201 million euros (\$224 million), compared with 120 million euros a year earlier.

Revenues dropped to 6.35 billion euros from 6.98 billion euros.

The bank said revenues

from fixed income sales and trading were off 19 percent at 1.5 billion euros, while those from equity sales and trading dropped 18 percent to 468 million euros.

CEO Christian Sewing said that "our continued cost discipline helped us to offset lower revenues."

However, the bank said that "we expect revenues in 2019 to be essentially flat compared to 2018," compared with its previous call for a slight increase.

Sewing was tightlipped during a call with analysts on what if any new strategies Deutsche Bank might pursue after dropping the Commerzbank merger talks.

"We will not be drawn on

speculation about what other options we have con-

"You should also not draw any conclusion from this

7.23 euros in Frankfurt trading. □



In this March 18, 2019, file photo headquarters of Deutsche Bank, left, and Commerzbank are seen in Frankfurt, Germany.

Associated Press

sidered, or what options are or are not under ongoing consideration," he said.

unwillingness to comment." Deutsche Bank shares dropped 4.1 percent to

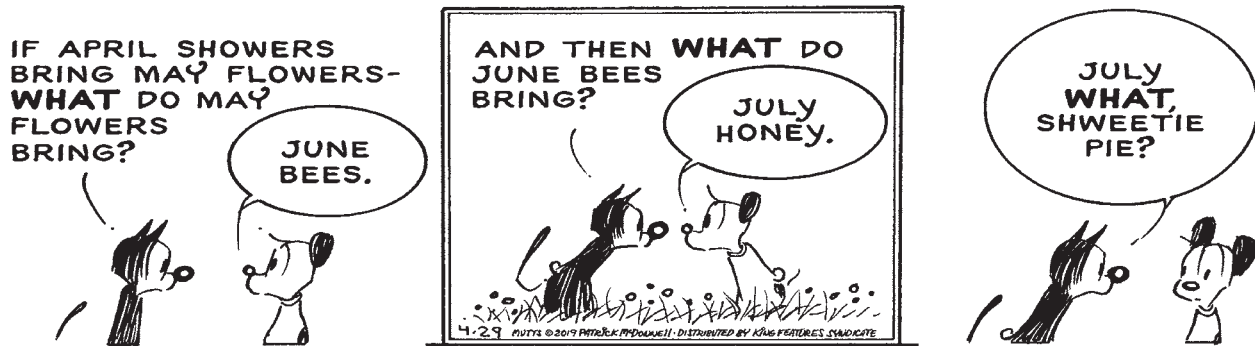
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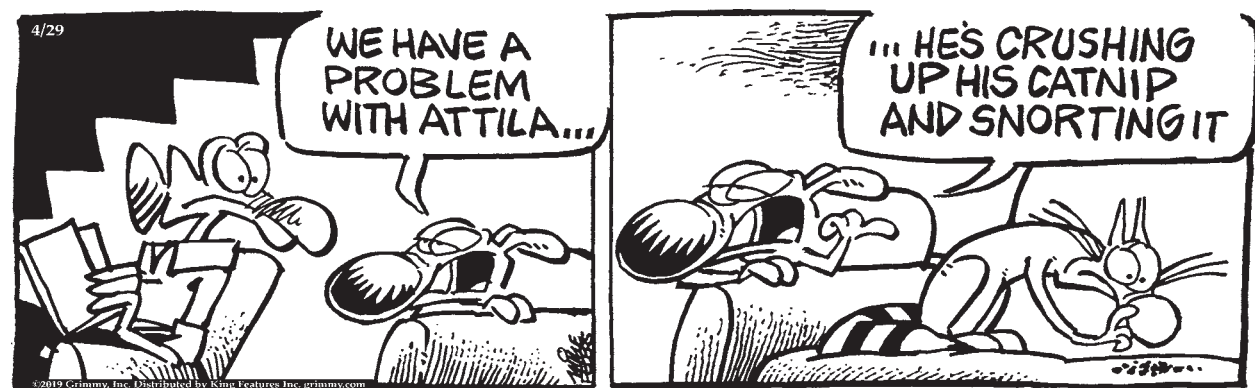
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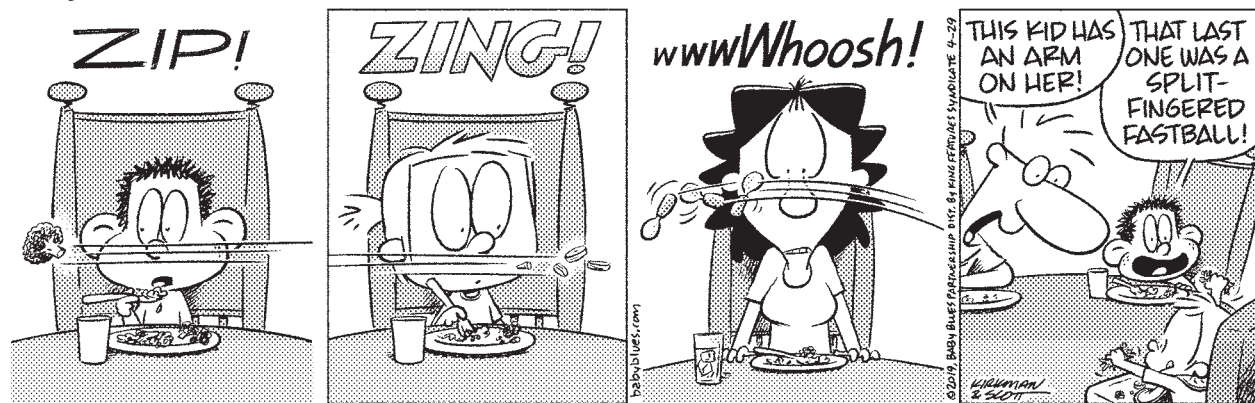
Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

5	7		4		1		3	2
				7				
	6		9		8		1	
7		3				5		8
	1			9			7	
6		9				4		1
	2		5		7		6	
				3				
9	3		2		6		5	4

Difficulty Level ★

4/29

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Saturday's puzzle answer

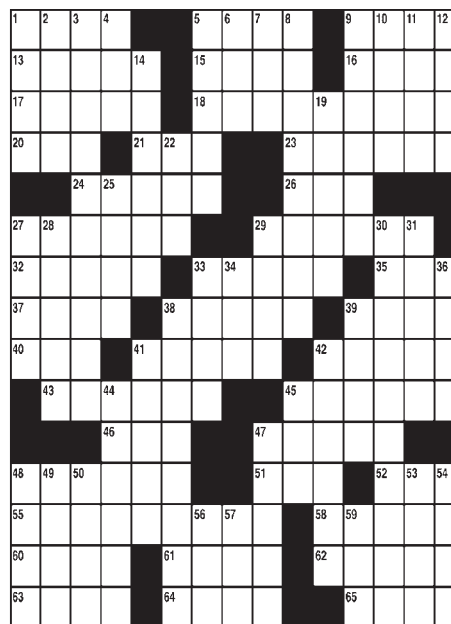
5	1	9	3	8	4	7	2	6
8	3	7	5	2	6	9	1	4
4	6	2	7	1	9	8	3	5
1	5	4	2	6	7	3	9	8
9	7	8	1	4	3	5	6	2
3	2	6	9	5	8	1	4	7
7	4	5	6	3	1	2	8	9
2	8	3	4	9	5	6	7	1
6	9	1	8	7	2	4	5	3

ACROSS

- 1 Snow toy
5 Sty supper
9 Decelerate
13 Couples
15 Excursion
16 Sheltered bay
17 Beginning
18 Wasted away from disuse
20 20th letter
21 Up in the ____; unresolved
23 Ford and Close
24 Manicurist's focus
26 Crash into
27 Spinning rapidly
29 Smoke and mirrors
32 ____ one's heels; waits
33 TV's " ____ Line Is It Anyway?"
35 Cow's comment
37 Drags along behind
38 Becomes dizzy
39 Extend across
40 Espy
41 Razz
42 Baggy
43 Place for socks & undies
45 Cuts of beef
46 Animal enclosure
47 Perils
48 Floor covering
51 ____ and downs; good and bad times
52 Marriage words
55 Still the same
58 Receded
60 Use a drill
61 ____ up on; study about
62 Dinner course
63 Sharp tools
64 Agile
65 Female birds

DOWN

- 1 Speck
2 Path
3 20th-century U.S. president
4 Rap's Dr. ____
5 State symbols on our flag
6 " ____ Like Love"; Amanda Peet film
7 " ____ Father, Who art in heaven..."
8 Make ____; gain ground
9 Plot craftily
10 Cut of pork
11 Hotpoint appliance
12 Ties the knot
14 Elevator alternative
19 Come in second
22 " ____ Be Home for Christmas"
25 Feels miserable
27 ____ up; misbehaves
28 Courted
29 Pineapple brand
30 Not doable
31 Breakfast bread
33 ____ out; become dilapidated
34 " ____ So Fine"; 1960s song
36 Dollar bills



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

4/29/19

6 "A ____ Like Love"; Amanda Peet film

7 " ____ Father, Who art in heaven..."

8 Make ____; gain ground

9 Plot craftily

10 Cut of pork

11 Hotpoint appliance

12 Ties the knot

14 Elevator alternative

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27 ____ up; misbehaves

28 Courted

29 Pineapple brand

30 Not doable

31 Breakfast bread

33 ____ out; become dilapidated

34 " ____ So Fine"; 1960s song

36 Dollar bills

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

DES	HADIT	ARCH
EXIT	ADORE	SILLO
MAZE	BATON	SCAR
MERRIMENT	IOWA	
RUTS	ALS	
SALADS	RECEIPTS	
ALICE	HEALS	LAP
DONE	PASTE	DATA
AND	SLITS	LATER
TEACHERS	POSERS	
AAA	RUSH	
BLAB	SPLITTING	
YOGI	ALOFT	NIRO
OPEN	NOBLE	GNAW
BESS	TWEED	EYE

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4/29/19

38 Goes in again

39 ____ up; absorb

41 Twitter post

42 Team defeats

44 Washington State exports

45 Tear

47 Not at all pale

48 Havana's land

49 As strong as ____

50 Seldom seen

53 Martin or Cain

54 Likelihood

56 Elected official: abbr.

57 Vestibular nerve's location

59 " ____! Humbug!"

Giraffes a tentative step closer toward federal protections

By MICHAEL BIESECKER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Years after international watchdogs began warning that giraffes are sliding toward a silent extinction, the Trump administration is taking the first tentative steps toward protecting the world's tallest land animal under the Endangered Species Act. The move, which advocates say is long overdue, came after legal pressure from environmental groups. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced Thursday that its initial review has determined there is "substantial information that listing may be warranted" for giraffes. The finding, to be published in the Federal Register, will begin a more in-depth review and public comment process that could lead to import restrictions on hunting trophies and body parts from giraffes, including hides and bones.

The giraffe population in Africa has declined by about 40 percent in the past three decades, according to the International Union for the Conservation of Nature. The group, which designates endangered species, added giraffes to its "Red List" in 2016. It determined that the species as a whole is "vulnerable" to extinction and classified two subspe-



In this Tuesday, March 20, 2018 file photo, giraffes and zebras congregate under the shade of a tree in the afternoon in Mikumi National Park, Tanzania.

Associated Press

cies as "critically endangered."

There are now only about 68,000 mature giraffes left in the wild, a number falling each year. That's less than a quarter of the estimated number of remaining African elephants, which have been protected under U.S. law as a threatened species since 1978.

Biologists cite habitat loss, civil unrest and poaching among the threats driving the decline.

A coalition of environmental and conservation groups petitioned the Fish and Wildlife Service in early 2017 to protect giraffes under the Endangered Species Act. After the administration took no action for nearly two years, the groups sued in December. "The United States cannot

stand idly by and allow thousands of U.S. imports of giraffe parts every year without any regulation while these animals are on a path to extinction," said Anna Frostic, managing wildlife attorney for the Humane Society of the United States and Humane Society International. "It is time that the United States stands tall for giraffes and gives this at-risk species the protection that it urgently needs." A spokeswoman for the Fish and Wildlife Service declined to comment on Thursday.

Giraffes are often hunted for meat in the 21 African countries where they are still found. They are also increasingly targeted by wealthy trophy hunters as other big-game animals have become scarcer. □

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2Br -2,5 Baths sleeps 7
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Studio unit 13 \$2950
Studio 3205 35wks left \$2700
DiviPhoenix Rm 107 20wks left
wk 34 \$2975
Divi Golf studio Rm 4201 wk 35-
26 wks left \$2875
Casa Del Mar 1Br Rm 1335 wk
21-5/25 for sale BO
wk 29 Rm 326 \$1,450
rmwjm@aol.com-5086510016

211098

Classifieds

For Sale By Owner:

Casa del Mar

2 Bedroom/2 Bath

7/1308(\$18,000);

7&8/1408(\$18,000/Wk.);

8/1113 (\$17,000);

8/1409(\$17,000);

9/1218(\$15,000);

10/1207(\$15,000);

11&12/1419(\$13,000/Wk.);

13/1509(\$13,000);

14/1308(\$13,000);and,

15/1217(\$10,000).

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San Nicolas

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OTHER

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Blood Bank Aruba 587 0002

Urgent Care 586 0448

Walk-In Doctor's Clinic

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EMERGENCY

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Oranjestad	527 3140
Noord	527 3200
Sta. Cruz	527 2900
San Nicolas	584 5000
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Ambulancia	911
Fire Dept.	115
Red Cross	582 2219

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Prof. Taxi	588 0035
Taxi D.T.S.	587 2300
Taxi Serv. Aruba	583 3232
A1 Taxi Serv.	280 2828

TRAVEL INFO

Aruba Airport	524 2424
American Airlines	582 2700
Avianca	588 0059
Jet Blue	588 2244
Surinam	582 7896

CRUISES



April 30
Pacific Princess

AID FOUNDATIONS

FAVI- Visually Impaired
Tel. 582 5051

Alcoholics Anonymous
Tel. 736 2952

Narcotics Anonymous
Tel. 583 8989

Women in Difficulties
Tel. 583 5400

Centre for Diabetes
Tel. 524 8888

Child Abuse Prevention
Tel. 582 4433

Quota Club Tel. 525 2672

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Phone Directory Tel. 118

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Weststraat
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Royal Plaza Mall
L.Q. Smith Boulevard
Caya G.F. Betico Croes
Caya G.J.

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Renaissance Ocean Suites
1st floor week 15 & week 16
same room 2121 1 bdr sleeps
4 ocean view \$10,000 for both
weeks contact Sherri Otoski
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Studio Rm 128 wk35 9/7 \$2275
Studio unit 13 \$2950
Studio 3205 35wks left \$2700
DiviPhoenix Rm 107 20wks left
wk 34 \$2975
Divi Golf studio Rm 4201 wk 35-
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Team recommends reducing lobstering gear to save whales

By **PATRICK WHITTLE**
Associated Press

The amount of gear the East Coast lobster fishery puts in the water must be reduced in order to protect a dwindling species of large whale, a federal government team recommended Friday.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Team wrapped up several days of discussion Friday about ways to reduce injuries and deaths caused when North Atlantic right whales get entangled in fishing gear.

In this decade, the number of North Atlantic right whales has decreased by the dozens to about 411 today.

The team issued its recommendations to the federal government on Friday that call for a reduction of vertical trap lines — which can ensnare whales — by up to 50% in some areas. The team also recommended the use of lines that break more easily and allow the giant whales a chance to escape.

The recommendations must now go through an approval process that could be contentious.

Lobster fishing groups closely monitored the team's discussions and said rule changes need to pro-



In this March 28, 2018, file photo, a North Atlantic right whale breaches the surface of Cape Cod bay off the coast of Plymouth, Mass.

Associated Press

tect the fishing industry, too. Conservation groups have pushed for stricter new rules.

"I'm still trying to digest what this means for the Maine fishery," said Kristan Porter, president of the Maine Lobstermen's Association and a member of the take reduction team. "It's about figuring out what's next for the fishery."

The U.S. lobster fishery, based mostly in Maine, is in the midst of a multiyear boom in catch, at a time when domestic and international interest in lobster

is high, resulting in strong prices. Maine fishermen caught nearly 120 million pounds of lobster last year, and have topped 100 million every year since 2011 after never doing so in the past.

Porter and others said it's too soon to speculate what reducing the lines could mean for the size of the haul. Lines can be used to retrieve multiple traps at once, so a 50% reduction in lines doesn't necessarily mean an equal decrease in traps.

The recent growth of the

lobster haul has coincided with several bad years for the right whales, which were decimated during the whaling era and are a perennial favorite on whale watch tours. There were about 480 right whales in 2010, and the population has suffered due to high mortality and poor reproduction. Not a single calf was sighted last year, though this year there have been at least seven.

The proposed rules represent "a substantial opportunity to reduce the impacts of U.S. fisheries" on the

animals, said Sam Rauch, NOAA Fisheries deputy assistant administrator for regulatory programs.

"Everyone understands that there are real and difficult consequences to fishermen as a result of the choices made in this room," Rauch said.

The take reduction team was created in the 1990s and includes scientists, fishermen, conservationists and others.

Erica Fuller, a senior staff attorney with Conservation Law Foundation who is not on the team, described the moves as "a start," but added much work remains to save the whales.

"We need to do more and we need to do it faster than the rulemaking proposed here," she said.

Maine Lobstermen's Association executive director Patrice McCarron sent a letter to NOAA earlier in the week that stated the group is committed to "identifying conservation measures to improve protections for right whales."

McCarron is on the take reduction team. Her letter, addressed to Mike Pentony, regional administrator for NOAA Fisheries Greater Atlantic Region, also said it's "crucially important" that lobstermen support the methodology used to make the new rules. □



In this photo provided by United Nations Children's Agency (UNICEF), damaged buildings are seen after Cyclone Kenneth made landfall in Pemba, Mozambique, Friday, April 27, 2019.

Associated Press

Ocean changes affected deadly duo of Mozambique cyclones

By **FRANK JORDANS**
Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) — Warming waters and rising sea levels are affecting Indian Ocean cyclones such as those that have wrought havoc in Mozambique in recent weeks, making them potentially more deadly.

But experts caution it is premature to say whether the unprecedented double-whammy of storms to hit the southern African nation is a consequence of climate change, and whether these cyclones will become more common.

Cyclone Idai, which swamped large parts of

central Mozambique last month, killed over 600 people and displaced thousands. Cyclone Kenneth made landfall Thursday evening in the north of the country where no such storm has been recorded since satellite observations began in the 1970s.

"There is no record of two storms of such intensity striking Mozambique in the same season," said Clare Nullis, a spokeswoman for the World Meteorological Organization.

"It is difficult to pronounce on one event like Idai, or even two like Idai and Kenneth. The statistical size of

the sample is just too small," she said. "But one thing is sure: The vulnerability of coastal areas will become worse with the sea-level rise induced by global warming."

"While attention is often given to wind speed, we know from experience that it is rainfall — and subsequent flooding and landslides — that can be even more dangerous from a humanitarian perspective," said Antonio Carabante, an emergency relief delegate with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. □

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Taylor Swift to open Billboard Awards with performance

By MESFIN FEKADU

NEW YORK (AP) — Taylor Swift will open next week's Billboard Music Awards with a performance of her new single "ME!"

Swift released the colorful, upbeat song Friday morning, ending the weeklong search the pop star set off when she teased fans with clues about a new project. She will kick off the May 1 awards show at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas, where Mariah Carey, Madonna, Maluma, Kelly Clarkson, Paula Abdul and BTS are also performing.

Swift, a 23-time Billboard Award winner, is nominated for top female artist and top touring artist at the show, which will air live on NBC.

Swift released "ME!" — featuring Brendon Urie of Panic! at the Disco — on streaming services and also dropped its eye-popping music video Friday. It's the first single from her upcoming

seventh album — the follow-up to 2017's "reputation."

In an interview with Robin Roberts on Thursday — during the 2019 NFL Draft on ABC — Swift said the song is about "embracing your individuality and really celebrating it."

"I think that with a pop song we have the ability to get melodies stuck in people's heads and I just want it to be one that makes (people) feel better about themselves," she said.

The video for "ME!" starts with a slithering snake hissing — an ode to Swift's "reputation" campaign — but then explodes into dozens of butterflies. Pastel colors are all over the video, which includes Swift and Urie happily dancing around.

Panic! at the Disco released its debut album in 2005. It featured the hit "I Write Sins Not Tragedies" — a song Swift said she loved as a teenager. The band has



Taylor Swift attends the Time 100 Gala, celebrating the 100 most influential people in the world, at Frederick P. Rose Hall, Jazz at Lincoln Center on Tuesday, April 23, 2019, in New York.

Associated Press

downsized over the years, and now includes only Urie (a touring band accompanies him on the road).

Urie will play double duty at the Billboard Awards:

The Grammy-nominated Panic! — who had a huge hit in the last year with "High Hopes" — will also perform at the show. Panic! is also nominated for four awards,

including top duo/group, top rock artist, top rock song ("High Hopes") and top rock album ("Pray for the Wicked").

Swift wrote "ME!" with Urie and co-producer Joel Little, the New Zealander best known for producing Lorde's 2013 debut album, "Pure Heroine." He has also worked on hits for Imagine Dragons and Khalid.

Swift dropped clues about a new project for several weeks on social media, and her fanatic fans deciphered them and predicted Urie would be featured on the song.

She surprised a few hundred of those fans Thursday when she visited a mural she commissioned in Nashville and thanked them for showing up. □



A young boy points a camera he was playing with towards a new piece of street art believed to be by street artist Banksy on a wall where Extinction Rebellion climate protesters had set up a camp in Marble Arch, London, Friday, April 26, 2019.

Associated Press

Climate mural emerges after London protests; Is it Banksy?

Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Officials in London are trying to determine if a stenciled mural that appeared at a base camp for climate protests was created by the street artist Banksy.

The mural is on a wall at Marble Arch, where the group Extinction Rebellion

had an encampment for 10 days until Thursday and disrupted transportation in the British capital with daily, targeted non-violent protests. The artwork shows a child holding an Extinction Rebellion sign beside the words "From this moment despair ends and tactics begin." □

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'Avengers: Endgame' obliterates records with \$1.2B opening

NEW YORK (AP) — The universe belongs to Marvel. "Avengers: Endgame" shattered the record for biggest opening weekend with an estimated \$350 million in ticket sales domestically and \$1.2 billion globally, reaching a new pinnacle in the blockbuster era that the comic-book studio has come to dominate. The "Avengers" finale far exceeded even its own gargantuan expectations,

according to studio estimates Sunday. The movie had been forecast to open between \$260 million and \$300 million in U.S. and Canadian theaters, but moviegoers turned out in such droves that "Endgame" blew past the previous record of \$257.7 million, set last year by "Avengers: Infinity War" when it narrowly surpassed "Star Wars: The Force Awakens" (\$248 million or about \$266 million in



Marvel Studios President Kevin Feige, from left, poses with members of the cast of "Avengers: Endgame," Chris Hemsworth, Chris Evans, Robert Downey Jr., Scarlett Johansson, Jeremy Renner and Mark Ruffalo at a hand and footprint ceremony at the TCL Chinese Theatre on Tuesday, April 23, 2019, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

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PH	MON-THU 4:35 6:50 8:20
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LEO ALDANA | DANIELA ALVARADO

SOLTERAS INDISPONIBLES

SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

PBP MON-SUN 6:15 | 9:10

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PH	MON-THU 4:00 6:15 8:30
	FRI 4:00 6:15 8:30 10:45
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PBP	MON-THU 5:05 7:20 9:35
	FRI 5:05 7:20 9:35 11:50
VIP	SAT 2:50 5:05 7:20 9:35 11:50
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PBP	MON-THU & SUN 8:35
	FRI-SAT 8:35 10:50

ZACHARY LEVI | MICHELLE BORTH

SHAZAM!

PH	MON-SUN 9:20
PBP	SPANISH MON-FRI 5:45
	SAT-SUN 2:55 5:45

CHRISSY METZ | TOPHER GRACE

BREAKTHROUGH

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

PH	MON-FRI 4:00 6:40
	SAT-SUN 1:20 4:00 6:40
PBP	MON-SUN 9:15

REGINA HALL | ISSA RAE

Little

PBP	MON-FRI 4:15 6:45
	SAT-SUN 1:45 4:15 6:45

COLIN FARRELL | MICHAEL KEATON

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inflation adjusted dollars.) "Endgame" was just as enormous overseas. Worldwide, it obliterated the previous record of \$640.5 million, also set by "Infinity War." ("Infinity War" didn't open in China, the world's second largest movie market, until two weeks after its debut.) "Endgame" set a new weekend record in China, too, where it made \$330.5 million. In one fell swoop, "Endgame" has already made more than movies like "Skyfall," "Aquaman" and "The Dark Knight Rises" grossed in their entire runs, not accounting for inflation. Alan Horn, Disney chairman, credited Marvel Studios and its president, Kevin Feige, for challenging "notions of what is possible at the movie theater." "This weekend's monumental success is a testament to the world they've envisioned, the talent involved, and their collective passion, matched by the irrepressible enthusiasm of fans around the world," Horn said in a statement. To accommodate demand, the Walt Disney Co. released "Endgame" in more theaters — 4,662 in the U.S. and Canada — than any opening before. Advance ticketing services

set new records. Early ticket buyers crashed AMC's website. And starting Thursday, some theaters even stayed open 72 hours straight. "We've got some really tired staff," said John Fithian, president and chief executive of the National Association of Theater Owners. "I talked to an exhibitor in Kansas who said, 'I've never sold out a 7 a.m. show on Saturday morning before,' and they were doing it all across their circuit." Not working in the film's favor was its lengthy running time: 161 minutes. But theaters kept added thousands of showings for "Endgame" to get it on more screens than any movie before to satiate the frenzy around "Endgame." Joe and Anthony Russo's film ties together the "Avengers" storyline as well as the previous 21 releases of the Marvel "cinematic universe," begun with 2008's "Iron Man." For an industry dogged by uncertainty over the growing role of streaming, the weekend was a mammoth display of the movie theater's lucrative potency. Fithian called it possibly "the most significant moment in the modern history of the movie business." "We're looking at more than



30 million American and more than 100 million global guests that experienced 'Endgame' on the big screen in one weekend," Fithian said. "The numbers are just staggering." Further boosting the results for "Endgame" were good reviews; it currently ranks as 96% fresh on Rotten Tomatoes, the best rating for any Marvel movie aside from "Black Panther." Audiences gave the film an A-plus CinemaScore. Single-handedly, "Endgame" led the overall weekend at the domestic box office to a record \$400 million in ticket sales, according to Comscore. "Endgame" accounted for a staggering 88% of those tickets. The film's grosses were aided by 3-D screenings (a record \$540 million in global ticket sales) and IMAX screenings (a company record \$91.5 million). "Our partners in exhibition have done a great job with us on this film. As they saw the need, they opened up screens," said Cathleen Taft, distribution chief for Disney. "While there may have been a concern — Is there going to be enough seats available? — I think that exhibition met that demand and rose to the occasion." □

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Hand-carved mahjong tiles are a dying craft in Hong Kong

By YOYO CHOW
ALICE FUNG
Associated Press

HONG KONG (AP) — Just opposite the entrance to a neon-lit night market, one of Hong Kong's few remaining carvers of mahjong tiles engraves the two Chinese characters for the number 8,000 on a piece of acrylic. With a knife in his right hand, Cheung Shun-king turns the tile with the other to cut into it. From time to time, he gently blows away the shavings. His is a dying craft in an era of mass-produced tiles for the table-top game, popular in southern China, Hong Kong and Taiwan. The 65-year-old artisan believes there are only three or four carvers left in Hong Kong. Cheung is trying to revive interest in the tradition by holding workshops to demonstrate how the tiles are made. "For hand-carved mahjong tiles, when you look closely,

you can see each of them is different," he said inside his shop, a 100-square-foot (9-square-meter) space on the ground-floor of an old-style shop-house. "It is because I carve them one after another, complete them one by one instead of using a mold. Sometimes, the strength I apply may be different if I just have had a meal or chat while carving."

Played at Lunar New Year and other gatherings, mahjong has become a symbol of friendship and family bonds. Chinese restaurants provide tables and mahjong sets to customers who host wedding or birthday banquets. Hong Kong once was dotted with mahjong parlors, where people could play against strangers for money, but few are left.

Each mahjong set has 144 tiles with designs that include Chinese characters, dots, flowers and bamboo



In this April 18, 2019, photo, Cheung Shun-king, 65-year-old mahjong game tile maker, poses with his tiles in his shop in Kowloon's old neighborhood of Hong Kong.

Associated Press

sticks. The four players sit around a square table and shuffle the tiles face-down. Each arranges a set of tiles, like a hand of cards, before the game starts. They then take turns drawing and discarding the tiles until one player forms a winning combination.

It takes Cheung nearly a week to make one set, because he usually carves only at night, when he isn't

serving customers and running errands. After carving the tiles, he cleans and paints them in three colors: green, blue and red. The final step is to rub and wipe away the excess dried paint.

A set of his tiles sells for at least \$400, nearly tenfold the price of factory-made tiles.

He started a recent workshop by demonstrating

how he engraves the tiles, so the participants can learn basic skills such as the proper posture to sit and hold a carving knife. Then, he went around the room teaching them one-on-one.

"Once you tried, you know, hacking your way with one of these, then you can see the intense skill it takes just to make a few strokes and to get something so beautiful out of it," said one student, Adrian O'Sullivan, a 28-year-old elementary school teacher.

Cheung doesn't expect them to become master carvers. At the end of the class, he retouches the tiles made by the students so they have a good-looking one to take home.

"There used to be more than 10 mahjong stores along this street," he said. "Before when it was a flourishing business, it wasn't a problem even if there were many of us. □"

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